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ROYAL BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ASIATIC SOCIETY

FOUNDED BY SIR PHEROZESHAH M. MEHTA, IN 1913

VOL. V NO. 52 BOMBAY: THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1917. TWO ANNAS

SHIPPING

P. & O. AND BRITISH INDIA

(Companies Incorporated in England.)

MAIL & PASSENGER SERVICE

P. & O. SAILINGS.

STEAMERS of the P. & O. Co. will be despatched to London, calling at Marseilles, at frequent intervals.

Steamers will also be despatched for Australia and for China and Japan.

Further particulars regarding fares, names of steamers and dates of departure of the above vessels will be furnished on application to the Undersigned.

BRITISH INDIA SAILINGS.

The British India Co., will despatch Mail steamers for Karachi, Persian Gulf and East and South Africa at frequent intervals.

NOTICE.

HOLIDAY TICKETS TO AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

In view of the difficulties now attendant on passages to Europe, the P. and O. Company beg to announce that arrangements have been made to introduce special six months' Holiday Return Tickets to Australia and New Zealand. Many of the P. and O. Company's outward and homeward Australian Mail steamers will call at Bombay during the next few months and there will be ample room for any passengers desirous of visiting Australasia.

Six Months' Holiday Return Tickets.

	1st Saloon. Rs.	2nd Saloon Rs.
To Melbourne	630	450
,, Sydney	690	480
,, New Zealand (Auckland and Wellington).	870	660

24 Months' Return Tickets.

	Rs.	Rs.
To Melbourne	900	675
,, Sydney	945	720
,, New Zealand	1,080	855

Full particulars regarding dates and fares can also be obtained on application to

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & CO.,
Nicol Road, Fort, Bombay.

THE PERSIAN GULF S. N. CO., LTD.

Steamers are despatched at regular intervals to Persian Gulf and Red Sea Ports.

1st and 2nd class passengers' accommodation. Deck passengers also carried.

For further particulars regarding fares names of steamers and dates of departure of the above vessels will be furnished on application to

HAJI SULTANALI SHUSHTARY & Co.,
Agents.
19, Rampart Row,

THE BOMBAY WIDOWS PENSION FUND LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED 1876.
No. 273, Hornby Road, near Fire Brigade Station.
Funded Capital over Two Lakhs.
Investments in Government and approved Securities only.

Regular Deposit with the Controller of Currency of the Government of India in terms of the Insurance Act.

The Accounts are subject to strict audit according to Indian Companies Act.

Perfect Economy in management. The supervision as to Rates Mortality Investigation and Valuation is entrusted to an experienced European Actuary.

The object is to make provision for the widows of subscribers to a monthly pension from Rs. 5 to Rs. 50 without distinction of caste or creed. Rates of subscription are very moderate. Liberal Surrender Value in case the wife predeceased. Twelve months' grace if occupation is lost.

Commission to canvassers.

For details apply for a copy of Rules to—

GANJANAN SADANAND DESAI,
Secretary and Treasurer.

HEALTHY HAIR HINTS.

The idea that baldness is a sign of intellectuality is fast being exploded.

The hair is not pushed out of the head by the great knowledge inside.

In fact, many learned men use Kaminia Oil to prevent their hair from coming out.

They are succeeding with it, too.

So are many in all stages of intellectuality.

Available everywhere but it must be Kaminia Oil.

SHIPPING

NIPPON-YUSEN KAISHA.

Japan Mail Steamship Co., Ltd.

(Incorporated in Japan.)

To Japan, etc.

For Sailings and Freight apply to

T. KAWAGUCHI,
Manager.

York Building,
Hornby Road, Bombay.

OSAKA SHOSEN KAISHA.

(Incorporated in Japan.)

HEAD OFFICE:—OSAKA, JAPAN.

Fleet 128 Vessels, Gross Tonnage 819,057.

Steamers will be despatched at regular intervals to Japan via Singapore and Hong-Kong.

For freight and other particulars regarding sailing, etc., please apply to the UNDERSIGNED.

M. UCHIYAMA,
Agent.

Sukhadwalla Building,
Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.

THE "BOMBAY CHRONICLE"

The *Bombay Chronicle* is sold at two annas throughout India at the following stations:—

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LONAVLA.—A. H. Wheeler & Co.
MATHERAN.—N. Lord.
MUNMAD.—A. H. Wheeler & Co.
NAGPUR.—"Maharastra" Office.
NAGPUR.—A. H. Wheeler & Co.
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NADIAD.—Dalsukhram Keshavram Pandya.
POONA.—Shaik Abdulla Mohamed.
POONA.—A. H. Wheeler & Co.
RUTLAM.—A. H. Wheeler & Co.
SHOLAPUR.—A. H. Wheeler & Co.
SURAT.—C. A. Kaji.

PARISIAN DAIRY Co., Tamarind Lane, Fort, Bombay, for high class Table Butter, Rich Cream and Milk. 662

BANKING

NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA LIMITED.

(Incorporated in the United Kingdom.)

Bankers to the Government in British East Africa and Uganda.

Esplanade Road, BOMBAY.

Subscribed Capital	£2,000,000
Paid-up Capital	£1,000,000
Reserve Fund	£1,200,000

Head Office:
26, Bishopsgate, London, E.C.

Branches:

Calcutta	Chittagong	Mombassa
Bombay	Rangoon	Nairobi
Madras	Mandalay	Nakuru
Karachi	Colombo	Kisuma
Lahore	Kandy	Jinja
Amritsar	Newera-Elliya	Kampala
Delhi	Aden (Camp)	Entebbe
Cawnpore	Aden (Steamer Point)	Tanga, East Africa
Tuticorin	Zanzibar	Daressalam, East Africa
Cochin		

Agents in New York and South America:—
The Anglo-South American Bank, Ltd.
Agents in Mauritius:
Mauritius Commercial Bank.

FIXED DEPOSITS.

The Bank receives Fixed Deposits for One year and shorter periods at rates of interest to be ascertained on application.

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS

are opened for Approved Customers and interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum from Rs. 1,000 up to Rs. 1,00,000 but no interest is allowed when the sum accrued does not amount to Rs. 5 half-yearly.

BILLS OF EXCHANGE

are granted on the Head Office and Branches, in India, China, Africa and Australia, purchased or collected.

DRAFTS

are granted on the Head Office and Branches, of the Bank and on the Principal Cities of Europe, Africa, America and Australia. Remittances may be by telegrams.

The Bank undertakes the purchase and sale of Government Securities, Stocks and Shares and receives same for safe custody realising Interest and Dividend when due.

Loans and Cash Credits granted on approved securities.

RALPH KIDD,
Manager.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED.

Established 1889

Subscribed Capital	Yen 48,000,000
Paid-up Capital	Yen 30,000,000
Reserve Fund	Yen 26,500,000

HEAD OFFICE—YOKOHAMA.

Branches and Agencies at

Antung Hsein	Calcutta	Ryojun (Port Arthur)
Changchun	London	San Francisco
Darien (Dalne)	Lyons	Shanghai
Hankow	Fengtien	Sydney (Australia)
Harbin	(Mukden)	Tiehling
Hongkong	Nagasaki	Tientsin
Honolulu	Newchwang	Tokyo
Kobe	New York	Tsingtau
Los Angeles (Cal. U.S.A.)	Osaka	Tsinanfu
Liaoyang	Pekin	
	Singapore	

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS are opened at 2 per cent. per annum on daily balances of Rs. 1,000 up to Rs. 1,00,000 provided that the amount of half-yearly interest is not less than Rs. 5.

FIXED DEPOSITS are received for One year and shorter periods on terms which may be ascertained on application.

EVERY description of BANKING and EXCHANGE business transacted.

N. IGARASHI,
Manager.

Post Box No. 207.
Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.

THE BANK OF INDIA, LTD.

ESTABLISHED 7TH SEPTEMBER, 1906.
INCORPORATED UNDER THE INDIAN COMPANIES ACT VI OF 1882.
HEAD OFFICE—ORIENTAL BUILDINGS, BOMBAY.

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED ...	Rs. 1,00,00,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP ...	Rs. 50,00,000
RESERVE FUND ...	Rs 10,00,000

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS.

Interest is allowed on daily balances from Rs. 300 to Rs. 1,00,000 at the rate of 2½ per cent. per annum from December 1st to May 31st and 2 per cent. per annum for the remaining six months. On sums exceeding Rs. 1,00,000 interest is allowed by special arrangement. No interest will be allowed which does not amount to Re. 1 per half year.

FIXED DEPOSITS.

Deposits are received fixed for one year or for shorter periods at rates of interest which can be ascertained on application.

GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS.

Transacted rules for which can be obtained on application.

H. P. STRINGFELLOW,
Manager.

THE EASTERN BANK, LTD.

(Incorporated in England.)

Bankers to the Government in Busrah.

SAVINGS DEPOSITS ACCOUNTS.

The Bank receives Savings Deposits on the following terms:—

Interest is allowed at the rate of 3½ per cent. per annum on the minimum balance, up to but not exceeding Rs. 3,000 at the credit of an account between the 6th and the last business days of each calendar month.

Deposits may be made in the names of two or more persons and may be made payable to any one or more of them, or to the survivor or survivors.

Copies of the rules are obtainable on application at the Bank.

BANKING

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA LIMITED.

(Incorporated in England.)

Subscribed Capital	£1,125,000
Paid-up Capital	£562,500
Reserve Liability of Shareholders	£562,500
Reserve Fund	£550,000

HEAD OFFICE:
15, Gracechurch Street, London, E.C.
LONDON BANKERS:
The Bank of England.
London Joint Stock Bank, Ltd.
BRANCHES AND AGENCIES:

Bangkok	Hongkong	Kwala Lumpor
Batavia	Howrah	Madras
Bombay	(Calcutta)	Mauritius
Calcutta	Kandy	Penang
Colombo	Karachi	Rangoon
Delhi	Kota Bahru	Shanghai
Galle	(Kelantan)	Singapore

The Bank negotiates and collects Bills and grants, Drafts payable at its Head Office and branches and issues Letters of Credit for the use of Travellers.

The Bank receives Deposits on the following terms:—

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS.

Interest allowed at 2 per cent. on the actual daily balances up to Rs. 1 lakh.

Sums above Rs. 1 lakh will be received on terms to be ascertained on application.

FIXED DEPOSITS.

Fixed deposits are received for twelve months and shorter periods at rates to be ascertained on application.

NEW BRITISH WAR LOANS.—The Bank undertakes applications for these Loans on account of Constituents, and collection of interest thereon as it falls due FREE OF COMMISSION.

J. B. CRICHTON,
Manager.

Esplanade Road, Bombay.

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA & CHINA

INCORPORATED IN ENGLAND BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1853.

Capital	£1,200,000
Reserve Fund	£1,800,000
Reserve Liability of Shareholders	£1,200,000

HEAD OFFICE:
38, Bishopsgate, London, E.C.
AGENCIES AND BRANCHES:
INDIA, BURMA, STRAITS & CHINA & CEYLON, MALAY STATES, JAPAN.

Bombay	Singapore	Hongkong
Calcutta	Penang	Shanghai
Madras	Malacca	Canton
Karachi	Kwala Lumpor	Foochow
Delhi	Ipoh	Hankow
Amritsar	Klang	Peking
Rangoon	Seremban	Tientsin
Tavoy	Taiping	Yokohama
Colombo		Kobe

JAVA & SUMATRA, INDO-CHINA, Manila, Bangkok, PHILIPPINES SIAM.

Batavia	Saigon	Cebu	Puket
Sourabaya	Haiphong	Hoilo	
Medan			

NEW YORK; and all Banks in Australia.

BANKERS—Bank of England, London City and Midland Bank, London, County and Westminster Bank, National Provincial Bank of England, National Bank of Scotland.

The CORPORATION grant DRAFTS on the above Agencies and Branches and also on the principal Commercial Cities throughout the world, buy and receive for collection BILLS OF EXCHANGE, issue TRAVELLING LETTERS OF CREDIT and undertake general Banking business of every description.

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS. Interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on the minimum monthly balance of not under Rs. 1,000 and not exceeding Rs. 1,00,000 but no interest is allowed when the sum accrued, does not amount to Rs. 5 half-yearly. Amounts above Rs. 1,00,000 will be received on terms which may be ascertained upon application.

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES, STOCKS, and SHARES bought and sold on account of clients and also received for safe custody and collection of Interest and Dividends, when due.

FIXED DEPOSITS are received for twelve months and shorter periods at rates to be ascertained on application.

GEORGE MILLER,
Agent.

Esplanade Road.
Post Box No. 34, Bombay.
Office Hours—10-30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturday—10-30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

(Incorporated in Hongkong.)

Paid-up Capital	$15,000,000
Reserve Liability of Proprietors	$15,000,000
Silver Reserve Fund	$18,000,000
Gold Reserve Fund	$ 1,500,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS AND HEAD OFFICE IN HONGKONG.
ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN LONDON
BRANCHES:

Amoy	Johore	Saigon
Bangkok	Kobe	San Francisco
Batavia	Kwala Lumpor	Shanghai
Bombay	London	Do. Hongkong
Calcutta	Lyons	Singapore
Canton	Malacca	Sourabaya
Colombo	Manila	Taipeh
Foochow	Nagasaki	Tientsin
Hankow	New York	Tsingtau
Harbin	Peking	Yloilo
Hongkong	Penang	Yokohama
Ipoh	Rangoon	

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS.

Interest allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on Daily Balances of Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,00,000 provided the sum accrued amounts to Rs. 5 half yearly.

FIXED DEPOSITS.

Are received for varying periods up to 12 months on terms which may be ascertained on application. Drafts granted on London and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan. Credits granted. Bills purchased and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

J. D. SMART,
Agent.

10, Churchgate Street.

BANKING

BANK OF BARODA, LIMITED

Under the patronage of and largely supported by the Government of H. H. the Maharaja Gaekwar.

Registered under the Baroda Companies Act III of 1897.

HEAD OFFICE—BARODA.

Branches:—Ahmedabad, Navsari, Mehsana and Surat.

Capital Subscribed	Rs. 20,00,000
Capital Paid-up	Rs. 10,00,000
Reserve Fund	Rs. 4,50,000

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS.

Interest allowed on daily balance from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000 at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum and on sums over Rs. 1,00,000 by special arrangement. No interest which does not come to Rs. 3 per year will be allowed.

FIXED DEPOSITS.

Amounts for 12 months are received at 4½ per cent. and for other periods on terms which may be ascertained on application.

LOANS, OVERDRAFTS AND CASH-CREDITS.

The Bank grants accommodation on terms to be arranged against approved securities.

The Bank undertakes on behalf of its constituents the safe custody of Shares and Securities and the collection of dividends and interest thereon; it also undertakes the sale and purchase of Government Paper and all description of Stock at moderate charges, particulars of which may be learnt on application.

SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS.

Deposits received and interest allowed at 3½ per cent. per annum. Rules on application.

C. E. RANDLE,
Manager.

THE PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK, LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED 15TH MAY, 1895.

Capital Authorized	Rs. 50,00,000
Capital Issued	Rs. 31,00,000
Capital Subscribed	Rs. 31,00,000
Capital Paid-up	Rs. 16,21,208
Reserve Funds	Rs. 11,38,650

HEAD OFFICE—LAHORE.

Branches:

Amritsar, Bombay, Calcutta, Cawnpore, Delhi, D. I. Khan, Ferozepore, Gujranwalla, Jullundhur, Karachi, Kasur, Lahore City, Lyallpur, Ludhiana, Multan City, Peshawar City, Amballa City, Rawalpindi, Sargodha, Sialkot, Patiala, Jamoo, Srinagar and Jhelum City.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS are opened and interest allowed at the rate of 2½ per cent. per annum.

FIXED DEPOSITS are received for 12 months and shorter periods at rates of interest which can be ascertained on application.

SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS. Sums as low as Rs. 5 received and interest allowed at 3½ per cent. per annum.

LOANS, OVERDRAFTS and CASH CREDITS. The Bank grants accommodation on terms to be arranged against approved security.

CHEQUES, HUNDIS, BILLS, etc., of outstations are bought, collected and discounted.

For other particulars and rules of business apply to:—

SETH GHARIBDAS,
Manager.

BANK OF BOMBAY.

HEAD OFFICE,
Mandvi Branch and Sandhurst Road Branch
SAVINGS BANK.

The Bank receives Deposits on the following terms:—

Sums not exceeding Rs. 2,000 in the aggregate may be deposited within any one year from 1st January to 31st December.

Deposits may be made in the names of two or more persons and the balance made payable to one or more of them or to the survivor or survivors. Interest is allowed at the rate of three per cent. per annum on the minimum monthly balance not exceeding Rs. 10,000.

Copies of the Rules can be obtained on application at the Bank.

R. AITKEN,
Secretary and Treasurer.

THE TEXAS COMPANY

Incorporated in Texas (U. S. A.)

Petroleum and it Products.

KING'S BUILDINGS,
HORNBY ROAD, BOMBAY.

The following high grade brands of Kerosen Oil imported in cases packed in America are ready for delivery:—

BRANDS.

Southern Star 150°
Unicorn 125°

Deliveries will be made free of charge to all buyers in Bombay.

For further particulars apply to

Messrs. AHMED HUSEIN & Co.
Khadak, Mandvi Post, BOMBAY.

HOTELS

THE EVER POPULAR

EMPRESS HOTEL
NASIK ROAD
DEOLALI.

MODERATE CHARGES

FAMOUS FOR CUISINE

SPACIOUS GYMKHANA.

The House that works for a REPUTATION ONLY.

A. VIANELLI,
Chowpatty, BOMBAY.

INSURANCE

THE ZENITH LIFE ASSURANCE CO., LTD.

HEAD OFFICE—BOMBAY.

Managing Agents:—H. M. MEHTA & Co.

Policyholders can vote at meetings of the Company and thus have a voice in its management.

Funds are invested in Government and other Securities authorised by the Indian Trust Act.

The Rates of Premiums are equitable for India, and the lowest that can with safety be offered to the assured.

Policies issued on most liberal conditions and unnecessary restrictions abolished.

For Prospectus, forms and other particulars, please apply to:—

N. B. LALA,
Secretary,
43, Forbes Street Fort,
Bombay.

WANTED—Influential and active Agents throughout India and elsewhere.

WHOLESALE INDIGO DEALERS

AND

SUPPLIERS TO MILLS,

MESSRS. GIRDHARIDAS RADHAKISHENDAS.

Head Office: Barbhai Mohalla, Post No. 34
BOMBAY.

Telegraphs: "GOODWILL." Telephone No. 2709.

BANKERS, GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS AND EXPORTERS OF SEEDS, GROCERY, COTTON YARN, ETC., TO EGYPT, CYPRUS, ETC.

Branches: Madras, Karachi, Cawnpore, Shikarpur (Sind), Chaman (Baluchistan).

AGENCIES ALL OVER INDIA

SUITS! SUITS!! SUITS!!!

Just arrived new stock of Cashmere and Flannel for present season's wear.

An earnest trial is respectfully solicited.

VULLEY & SONS,

Tailors Shirts & Breeches Makers.

MEN'S COMPLETE OUTFITTERS AND GENERAL MERCHANTS.

Holland House,
next to Hotel Majestic.

PICTURES & PHOTOS

Framed Smartly at the Cheapest Rates.

KING & CO.,

Next to Evans Piano.
Hornby Road, BOMBAY.

SPECIAL SHORT PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS, ETC.

"Wanted," "To Be Let," and "For Sale" Advertisements, when not strictly appertaining to any regular business are charged at the following rates, which must be prepaid:—

Advertisements not exceeding four lines (24 words), Re. 1 per insertion; every additional line (six words), or part of a line, 4 annas. Headings count as two lines.

Advertisements are not received after 6 p.m. for insertion in the next day's paper.

Domestic Announcements.—6 lines, Rs. 2-0-0 per insertion prepaid. Every additional line, annas 4 extra.

Government, Railway, Legal and other Public Notifications.—Twelve annas per line or Rs. 6 per inch. Minimum charge Rs. 2.

Company Prospectuses and Company Notices.—Twelve annas per line or Rs. 6 per inch.

Trade Announcements in Special Short Advertisement Columns.—Four annas per line, or Rs. 2 per inch. Minimum space three lines. No display allowed.

Educational Announcements.—Six annas per line or Rs. 3 per inch. Minimum charge Re. 1-8.

All advertisements are payable strictly in advance.

Subscription Rates, Rs. 30 per annum payable yearly, half yearly, or quarterly in advance.

Special Contract rates for advertisements can be had on application to:

MANAGING-DIRECTOR,
"Bombay Chronicle" Office,
No. 3, Medows Street, Bombay.

MISCELLANEOUS

HOW TO MAKE MONEY at the Races. Send 8 annas stamp to WALEY HOPE, Post Box 411, Bombay. A genuine advertisement. 7181

SECOND-HAND BOOKS and LIBRARIES Purchased. Good Price offered Apply to Box No. 614, Advt. Dept., "Bombay Chronicle." 7219

JOB PRINTING.—Send any orders you wish to be executed promptly and to your satisfaction to the "BOMBAY CHRONICLE" PRESS, 6 Medows Street, Fort.

WANTED

WANTED—Good WATCH DOGS such as can catch thieves at night. Apply Box No. 613, Advt. Dept., "Bombay Chronicle." 7218

WANTED—Smart English-knowing PARSI SUPERVISER of Estates and Rent Collector. Cash security Rs. 500. Three years' agreement. Pay in all Rs. 70. Apply stating qualifications to Box No. 615, Advt. Dept., "Bombay Chronicle." 7220

WANTED—AGENTS for the SALE of "THE BOMBAY CHRONICLE" in the principal cities of India. For terms communicate with the MANAGING-DIRECTOR, Indian Newspaper Co., Ltd., 6, Medows Street Fort, Bombay.

REQUIRED by English Lady, young pupils, (Parsis, Hindus, or Mahomedans, girls) for tuition in English. Apply Box No. 1600, Advt. Dept., "Bombay Chronicle." 672

WANTED—For a Mill in mofussil one HEAD WIREMAN, preferably with experience of alternators, dynamos, etc., and four assistant wiremen. Apply stating age, qualifications, past service, and salary expected with copies of testimonials to Box No. 616, Advt. Dept., "Bombay Chronicle." 7221

WANTED—A GENTLEMAN or a retired Govt. servant to join as a sleeping partner in a profitable and easy business, with a capital of about twenty thousand rupees. Likely profits over 25 per cent. If preferred the amount may be given as a loan on interest with good Security. Apply to Box No. 604, Advt. Dept., "Bombay Chronicle." 7174

EUROPEAN or ANGLO-INDIAN LAD required in Karachi to train as personal clerk for type-writing, etc. Duties light and time to pursue studies if desired. Salary by arrangement. Reply with full particulars, age and if possible photo. (Which will be returned) to Box No. 612 Advt. Dept., "Bombay Chronicle." 7210

WANTED—One experienced HINDU GRADUATE to fill the post of HEAD MASTER, in the Seth Chaturbhuj Shivjee Anglo-Gujarati School. Pay Rs. 50 to begin with, and future chances for good work. Therefore candidates need apply with testimonials to the

SECRETARY,
Chaturbhuj Shivjee Anglo-Gujarati School,
Cannel Road, Cawnpore.

WANTED—Everybody to know that "Free Treatment of Accidents and Injuries" together with a Prospectus is sent free to any address by THE KALPATARU AYURVEDIC WORKS & STORES (Jorasanko, Calcutta), *the Best and Biggest Ayurvedic House in India*, manufacturing GENUINE SHASTRIC Medicines and MACHINE-MADE TABLETS under direct supervision of its founder MAHAMAHOPADHYAYA KAVIRAJ GANANATH SEN, SARASWATI, M.A., L.M.S.

Apply to-day at once.

VIVE LA FRANCE!

THE FRENCH ROOM, affiliated to the ALLIANCE FRANCAISE DE PARIS and the TOURING CLUB DE FRANCE gives its resident and non-resident members (1) conversational practice in the most pleasant forms, (2) practical help when they travel in France.

Apply to PROF LOUIS PELTIER, Thoburn House, Apollo Bunder, Bombay.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—One WESTINGHOUSE D. C. shunt wound 15 B. H. P. 460 volts 160/1100 R. P. M. complete with shunt regulator and pulley. Apply to Box No. 15, Advt. Dept. "Bombay Chronicle." 1085

FOR SALE

FOR SALE or ON HIRE—A well established TYPE and LITHO PRESS complete. Apply Box No. 617, Advt. Dept., "Bombay Chronicle." 7222

MATRIC STUDENTS—For rapidly revising the Tudor Period in History, read "Outlines of the Tudor Period." Can be had from BOOKSELLERS. Price Annas 4. 7225

FOR SALE—One second-hand steel LANCASHIRE BOILER, 30 ft. by 8 ft. by 125 lbs. pressure of Hicks Hargreaves make; one HORIZONTAL, non-condensing Single Cylinder Steam Engine, 11 in. by 19 in. stroke, of Lang Bridge make; one THREE BOWL HEAVY FRICTION CALENDER of Lang Bridge make; one VERTICAL BOILER, 7 N. H. P. 80 lbs. steam pressure. For particulars, apply to Box No. 607, Advt. Dept., "Bombay Chronicle." 7190

TO BE LET

TO BE LET—GODOWNS and upper 3 floors suitable for offices, clubs, residence, hotel, etc. situated at Appolo Street, near Share Bazar, Fort, opp. Messrs. LIPTONS, Ltd. Rent moderate. Apply to HARIRAM NATHUBHAI, c/o Messrs. Dharsi Nanji & Co., Danabunder, Bombay No. 3, Tel. No. 1311. 7188.

TO BE LET—Colaba Reclamation from 1st April, ground floor, Orient Building, Central Block, two separate entrances, Bedrooms on West.

S. R. SUBEDAR,
7217 16, Apollo Street.

WATSON'S ANNEXE, Apollo Bunder—Rooms facing Yacht Club, Apollo Pier Road. Rents from Rs. 25 to 125. Rooms can be furnished and arrangements for Board made on shortest notice. Apply to MANAGER.

PUBLIC NOTICES

BOMBAY MUNICIPALITY.

NOTICE.

SEALED TENDERS will be received by the Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay up to 1 p.m. (Bombay Time), on THURSDAY, the 15th March, 1917, for the supply of (36) pairs of bullocks for meat van service.

The bullocks must be (11) fourteen hands and upwards in height and up to six to seven years of age and must be in a sound and fit condition.

The successful tendered will have to supply the bullocks at the Bandora Slaughter Houses within one and a half months from the date of order and when supplied they will be examined by the Veterinary Officer of the Market Department and such of the bullocks as are rejected, will have to be removed at the tenderer's risk and cost.

A deposit of Rs. 500 (five hundred) must accompany the tender which will be forfeited in case of withdrawal of tender or refusal to sign the contract. The successful tenderer will have to deposit such additional sum as will make the total deposit equal to ten per cent. of the contract amount. If the successful tenderer pays the contract deposit in Government Paper he shall have to pay 20 per cent. extra.

Tenders delivered to Officers other than the Chief Accountant of the Municipality or the Commissioner, will not be considered.

If the tenderer is a firm, it is particularly requested that the names of the partners constituting the firm, should be intimated while submitting the tender.

The successful tenderer will have to bear the cost of stamp duty and other charges in connection with the contract.

The rates must be carefully entered by the intending tenderers and no variation or alteration therein will be allowed by the Commissioner on any account after the tenders are opened.

The Municipal Commissioner does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any tender.

P. W. MONIE,
Municipal Commissioner,
for the City of Bombay.

Bombay, 28th February, 1917.
Municipal Commissioner's Office. 7227

NOTICE.

TENDERS on prescribed forms only are invited for the supply of about 3,600 tons (10 per cent. less or more) of steam or rubble coal for the purpose of Municipal Drainage and Water Works, Ahmedabad.

Sealed tenders addressed to the Municipal Commissioner for the City of Ahmedabad, should be sent so as to reach this office on or before 10th March, 1917, before 5 p.m., stating on the envelope "Tender for the supply of coal." Tenders in envelope not so superscribed or on forms other than prescribed forms will be rejected. Certificates of chemical analysis should accompany the tender.

Forms of tenders may be had on payment of one rupee by application to the Municipal Engineer, Ahmedabad.

(Sd.) J. A. SHILLIDY,
Municipal Commissioner,
for the City of Ahmedabad.

Municipal Office,
Ahmedabad, 26th February, 1917. 7223

THE KHANDEISH SPINNING AND WEAVING MILLS CO., LTD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 43rd ANNUAL ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders of the above Company will be held on WEDNESDAY, the 7th day of March, 1917, at 3-30 p.m. (Standard Time), at the Registered Office of the Company Royal Insurance Buildings, Church Gate St., Fort, for the purpose of transacting the following business:—

1st.—To receive and adopt the Directors' Report and the Audited Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1916.

2—To declare a Dividend.

3rd.—To confirm the appointment of the Hon'ble Mr. Lalubhai Samaldas as a Director in place of Dr. Burjorji H. Dantra, deceased.

4th.—To appoint Directors in the room of those who retire by rotation, but are eligible for re-election.

5th.—To appoint Auditors for the year 1917 and to fix their remuneration, and

6th.—To transact such other business as may be brought forward by the Chairman.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from 1st March, 1917, to 7th March, 1917, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
MOOLJEE JAITHA & CO.,
Bombay, 27th February, 1917. 7228

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE.

SCHEME adopted by the Board of Directors of the Tata Iron and Steel Company, Limited, for the issue of the new Ordinary and Deferred Shares in the capital of the Company.

THE TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be closed from the 14th to the 23rd March, 1917, inclusive, and a statement prepared showing (a) the names of existing shareholders as on the 28th February, 1917; (b) their holdings on that date of Ordinary and Deferred shares respectively in the existing capital of the Company; and (c) the number of whole new ordinary and deferred shares and/or fractional coupons (if any) respectively to which they would be entitled under the scheme which has already been communicated to the shareholders, that is to say:—

(1) A Holder of existing Ordinary Shares will be entitled to an allotment of new Ordinary Shares in the proportion of three-fourths of a new Ordinary Share to one existing Ordinary Share.
(2) He will also be entitled to an allotment of New Deferred shares in the proportion of one-tenth of a new Deferred share to one new Ordinary share allotted to him, or in the event of his holding of existing Ordinary shares entitling him to an allotment of less than one new Ordinary share, to a proportionate allotment in respect thereof in coupons of new Deferred shares.
(3) A holder of existing Deferred shares will be entitled to an allotment of new Deferred shares in the proportion of one half of a new Deferred share to one existing Deferred share.

When the above mentioned statement is ready a Circular letter will be sent to the shareholders informing them of their several rights to participate in the new Ordinary and Deferred shares respectively, as ascertained by the said statement, and setting out the following conditions of the issue.

Applications for the new shares of both denominations, accompanied by the required application and allotment moneys, must be received by the Agents of the Company on or before the 15th August 1917.

Applications must be made on the form which will accompany the Circular letter.

Those shareholders who do not make their applications in due form and forward them to the Company's Agents with the required application and allotment moneys so that they are received on or before the 15th August 1917, will forfeit their right to participate in the new issue of shares.

Shareholders will be at liberty to renounce the allotments to which they are entitled under the before mentioned Scheme in favour of any other person, provided they fill up and sign the required form of Renunciation and that the persons in whose favour they renounce sign the required form of Acceptance. Form of Renunciation and Acceptance will accompany the Circular.

Any shares of either denomination unapplied for on the 16th August 1917 will be disposed of by the Directors, as they may think proper in the interests of the Company.

The application and allotment moneys to be forwarded with the applications will be as follows:—

(a) On each whole new Ordinary share, the sum of Rs. 15 (Rupees Fifteen).
(b) On each whole new Deferred share, the sum of Rs. 120 (Rupees one hundred and twenty) of which Rs. 10 (Rupees ten) will be on account of the par value of the share, and Rs. 110 (Rupees one hundred and ten) on account of the premium of Rs. 370 (Rupees three hundred and seventy) on each share.

The application and allotment moneys of those shareholders who are entitled to fractional allotments will be in a proportion to the above.

Temporary receipts will be issued to applicants for the new shares as soon as practicable after the 15th August, 1917.

When the number of shares to which a shareholder is entitled necessitates a fractional allotment (but not otherwise) temporary bearer coupons for fractions of shares will be issued in the case of the new Ordinary shares the temporary bearer coupons will be for one-fourth of a share each coupon; in the case of the new Deferred shares the temporary bearer coupons will be for one-fortieth of a share each coupon.

Thus if a shareholder holds ten existing Ordinary shares, he will receive one receipt for seven whole new Ordinary shares, two coupons each for one-fourth of a new Ordinary share and thirty coupons each for one-fortieth of a new Deferred share.

Holders of fractional coupons in respect of shares of either denomination must make up complete shares before 1st January, 1916.

The coupons for fractions of shares will be bearer coupons, but will not be transferable in the Company's Register, unless sufficient in number for conversion into whole shares.

No new shares of either denomination will be accepted for transfer before the 31st August, 1917.

Further calls in respect of the new Ordinary shares and the new Deferred shares, with the premium on the latter, will be made by the Board from time to time, but not less than three months' previous notice will be given of each call, and no call in respect of Ordinary shares will exceed Rs. 15 per share, or in respect of Deferred shares, and the balance of premium thereon, will exceed Rs. 70 per share.

The new Ordinary and Deferred shares will not rank for dividend until after the 30th June, 1921; that is to say, the holders of such shares will not be entitled to participate in any profits of the Company earned prior to the first July, 1921.

All existing Ordinary and Deferred shares transferred after the 28th February, 1917, will be without rights to participate in the new issue, which rights will remain with the parties whose names are on the Register on the 28th February as the holders of the shares on that date.

Dated this 22nd day of February, 1917.

By order of the Board,
TATA, SONS & COMPANY,
Agents,

The Tata Iron and Steel Company, Limited.
Navsari Buildings,
Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. 7153

THE KHATAU MAKANJI SPINNING AND WEAVING COMPANY, LTD.

NOTICE OF DIVIDEND.

NOTICE is hereby given that a DIVIDEND at the rate of Rs. 100 (Rs. one hundred only) per share free of income tax, has been declared for the half year ended 30th June, 1916, payable on application at the Registered Office of the Company, Oriental Buildings, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay, on and after THURSDAY, the 1st March, 1917, between the hours of 12 and 4 p.m. (S. T.), to those shareholders whose names appear on the Register of the Company on the 12th February, 1917, on production of share certificates.

By order of the Board of Directors,
B. L. KHOKHANI,
Secretary.

Bombay, 12th February, 1917. 7030

PUBLIC NOTICES

THE SIMPLEX MILLS COMPANY, LTD.

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in the meeting of the shareholders held TODAY, a Dividend at the rate of Rs. 50 per share, for the half year ended 31st December, 1916, has been declared payable on and after the 7th March 1917, in the Company's registered office, between the hours of 12 noon and 3-30 p.m. (excepting Saturdays when it will be paid between 12 noon and 1-30 p.m.) to those share-holders whose names appear on the register of the Company upto the evening of 14th February, 1917. The share-holders are requested to communicate to the Agents change in their address to prevent dividend warrants being mis-sent.

By Order of the Board of Directors.
D. M. WADIA & Co.,
Agents.

Bombay, 28th February 1917. 7224

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY.

TESTAMENTARY AND INTESTATE JURISDICTION.

GEORGE V by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of the British Dominions, beyond the Seas, King Defender of the Faith Emperor of India.

Petition for Probate of the last Will and Codicil of MEHTA HARJIWAN DHARSEY, a Merchant, who died at Jafferabad in Kathiawad ..... Deceased.

(1) BAI BENIBAI and (2) BAI JEKORE alias KADVI, both of Jafferabad in Kathiawad Kapole Bania, Hindu Inhabitants, widows of the deceased abovenamed now temporarily residing at Bibijan Street, outside the Fort of Bombay, the executrices according to the tenor of the Will of the abovenamed deceased ..... Petitioners.

All persons claiming to have any interest in the Estate of the abovenamed deceased are hereby cited to come and see the Proceedings if they think fit before the Grant of Probate.

Witness Sir BASIL SCOTT, Knight, Chief Justice at Bombay aforsaid this twenty-third day of February in the year of our Lord One thousand Nine hundred and seventeen and in the seventh year of our Reign.

Seal of the High Court at Bombay.

A. M. KAJIJI,
Registrar.

P. B. MALBARI,

The 23rd day of February, 1917.
Messrs. TYABJI DAYABHAI & Co.,
7226 Petitioners' Attorneys.

SALE BY AUCTION

MESSRS. MEHTA & CO

Auctioneers to the Government, G. I. P. Railway, etc.
No. 58, Medows Street, Fort, Bombay.
Telephone No. 1285.
Residence Telephone No. 696.

AUCTION SALE OF 400 BUNDLES ENGLISH STEEL BAILING HOOPS.

On SATURDAY, the 3rd day of March, at 3 p.m. (S.T.), Messrs. MEHTA and Co. will sell by Public Auction by order of Messrs. B. Manilal and Co., at their godown at Parsi Gully and on account and at the risk of Mr. Chumilal Chotalal Dabhaiwalla.

Ex. s.s. "City of Norwich":—
400 bundles English steel bailing hoops 3½ inches by 20 guage by 24 feet long about 10 tons.

MEHTA & CO.,
Auctioneers.

Bombay, 1st March, 1917.

GANDHI & CO.

AUCTIONEERS & COMMISSION AGENTS,
No. 52 Medows Street.

AUCTION SALE of Immoveable Property at Mahim, without the Fort, advertised for Sale on the 28th February, 1917, is POSTPONED until further notice.

GANDHI & Co.,
Auctioneers.

Bombay, 1st March, 1917.

AMUSEMENTS.

THE GREAT EASTERN CINEMA

THE ASIAN CINEMA HALL
(Late Edwards Theatre) Kalbadevi Road.
CHANGE OF PROGRAMME EVERY SATURDAY.
3 SHOWS TO-NIGHT
6-30. 8-0 & 10 p. m.
This week a very powerful War Drama
"NONE BUT THE BRAVE"
WITH
other Comic and Dramatic Films.
POPULAR HALF PRICES.

BOMBAY ART SOCIETY.

THE Conversazione (open to members only) will be held in the TOWN HALL on MONDAY, 12th March, 1917, at 9-30 P.M. (S.T.) under the Patronage and in the presence of H. E. the GOVERNOR and LADY WILLINGDON.

Subscription and application for the membership (each member may bring two Lady guests) should be sent to Hon. Sec. Elphinstone College, Fort.

Last day for receiving pictures is THURSDAY noon the 8th March at the Town Hall.

AMUSEMENTS.

THE EMPIRE

which shows the pick of the world's masterpieces.

TO-NIGHT at 6-30, 8-30 & 10 p.m.

"THE LIGHT (A 5-PART GOLD ROOSTER PLAY) THAT FAILED."

Rudyard Kipling, India's own particular Genius, and one of the world's greatest writers and poets has at last been persuaded by PATHE to allow his dramatic masterpiece

"THE LIGHT THAT FAILED"

EXCELSIOR THEATRE

BOMBAY'S PREMIER PLAY HOUSE

TO-NIGHT AT 9-45! LAST 3 NIGHTS!

A COMPLETE CHANGE OF PROGRAMME.

MAURICE E. BANDMAN presents WOLSELY CHARLES Co.

"THE SCAMPS"

In the Merry Vaudeville Entertainment.

New Music: Original Songs: Rollicking Fun: Up-to-date Burlesques.

Half Price Matinee Next Sunday at 6-30 p.m. Plans at ROSE & Co.

EVERY ENENING AT 6-30, Pathes beautifully coloured Masterpiece

"THE KING OF THE AIR."

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

THE THEATRE DE LUXE

DAILY

AT 5-30 AND 9-30.

THE MOST UNIQUE
and
REFINED ENTERTAINMENT
ever brought to India.

THE ROYAL ITALIAN CIRCUS

Patronised by the

ELITE OF SOCIETY.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.

TO-MORROW

FRIDAY, AT 9-30

will be presented

A SPECIAL
BENEFIT PERFORMANCE

in aid of the

ITALIAN RED-CROSS WAR FUND

When the whole of the gross receipts will be devoted to the above Fund.

RESERVE SEATS NOW
AT S. ROSE & CO.

ANGLO-AMERICAN CINEMA,

SANDHURST ROAD
(East of Olympia Cinema)
Where

A Mystery of Mysteries. Unique piece in the pictorial world, full of sensation and thrill. To see it is to admit the highest advancement of science that a human brain can ever achieve. Instruction and amusement going side by side. It keeps your heart beating as episode after episode meets your eyes.

TO-NIGHT.

THE MYSTERY OF AL-SIN

III PART.

EXTRA PRIZE SHOWS ON SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 3-30 p. m.

MATINEES ON SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 5-15 p. m.

A SUPER SERIAL.

45,000 ft. Long. 8,000 ft. Weekly.

Al-Sin the self-styled "Higher one" and his gang of resourceful desperados will stand at your service to give you a touch of their mightiness in Science, Art and foresight.

Fail not to pay a visit and you shall not have cause for regret.

To be distributed
Rs. 500 CASH PRIZES.
amongst the on-lookers.

6-30 To-night 10.

GREAT GALA NIGHT

PALACE OF VARIETIES

GAIETY THEATRE

Presents

MISS ESSIE JENNINGS
MISS ESSIE JENNINGS
MISS ESSIE JENNINGS

In Another latest

"WHEN THE BOYS COME MARCHING BACK TO BLIGHTY"

"I've got a Girl in Pekin"

"A ROSE. A KISS. A RING"

MY BIRD OF PARADISE.

C. MORRIS
C. MORRIS

Comedian and Dancer.

Return Visit
of

MISS MONA
MISS MONA
MISS MONA

The Popular Bombay Soubrette
in her latest
CATCHY CHORUSES
Intercepted by
A GREAT LONDON PRODUCTION
THE CHILDREN OF THE CIRCUS.

A thrilling Circus Drama in 3 Parts replete with most sensational situations from start to finish.

Featuring Miss Baptista from the London Olympia.

Exciting Circus Scenes and Wonderful Performing Animals

AND

KEYSTONE COMEDIES.

WHITE PAINTS AND LINSEED OIL MANUFACTURERS.

Our Factory manufactures White Paints and the following Oils, which are supplied wholesale to the trade:—

White Paint—A. B. and C. quality.

Raw Linseed Pure Oil.

Double boiled Linseed Oil (Bell Oil).

We manufacture also:—

French Chalk, China Clay, Whiting, Varnishes, Plaster of Paris, Enamel Paints, White Zinc and White Lead, Chocolate green, etc., etc.

Wholesale merchants will be given all facilities.

THE INDIAN WHITE PAINT MANUFACTURING CO.

BYCULLA, LOVE LANE, BOMBAY.

Telegraphic Address:—White Paint.

Telephone No. 3953.

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COMMERCIAL

CABLE QUOTATIONS.

COTTON.

LIVERPOOL COTTON.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

Liverpool, Feb. 26th.

			Bales.
Total Day's	Sales at Liverpool	.. .. ..	8,000
" "	Sales on Spec. & for Exp.	.. ..	1,000
" "	Sales of East Indian	.. ..	1,200
" "	Imports	.. ..	6,000
Mid. Americans	.. .. ..	.. ..	11.36
Egyptian F. G. F.	.. .. ..	.. ..	22.65
New York 11 a.m. (As known in closing time.)		Liverpool at Mar.	16.47
		May.	16.44
New Orleans 10 a.m.		Mar.	16.15
		May.	16.93

CLOSING PRICES.

Liverpool, Feb. 26th.

Months.	To-day's closing price
February	10.92+11
Feb.-March	10.88+10
March-April	10.84 +11
April-May	10.79
May-June	10.74+10
June-July	10.68 11
July-Aug.	10.62+12
Aug.-Sept.	10.38
Sept.-Oct.	10.08 +10
Oct.-Nov.	9.93
Nov.-Dec.	9.83
Dec.-Jan.	9.78
Jan.-Feb.	9.75 + 9
Feb-Mar.	9.75

CLOSING EGYPTIAN FUTURE PRICES.

Liverpool, Feb 26th.

Months.	To-day's price.
March	21.30 10
May	19.90 5
July	19.55—10

ADDITIONAL QUOTATIONS.

Liverpool, Feb, 26th.

M. G. Bengal	Good	..	8.47
" "	Fully Good	..	8.67
" "	Fine	..	8.90
" No. 1 Oomra	Good	..	9.17
" " "	Fully Good	..	9.35
" " "	Fine	..	9.60
" Broach	Good	..	10.39
" "	Fully Good	..	10.67
" "	Fine	..	10.75
" Scinde	Good	..	8.32
" "	Fully Good	..	8.50
" "	Fine	..	8.75

AMERICAN MARKETS.

New York, Feb. 24th.

Day's Receipts at all U. S Ports	.. ..	5,000

New York, Feb. 26th

Day's	Receipts at all U. S. Ports	.. ..	..
"	Exports to Great Britain	.. ..	..
"	" to Continent..	.. ..	..
Futures at New York March		.. ..	16.37—9
	May ..	.. ..	16.36—8
Spot Cotton at New York	.. ..	.. ..	16.55+10
	" New Orleans ..	.. ..	Nominal
Futures at New Orleans March		.. ..	16.12+ 7
" "	May..	.. ..	15.97+ 2

BOMBAY MARKETS.

COTTON.

(From our Commercial Correspondent.)

Feb. 28.

M. G. Good Broach opened at Rs. 386 at Colaba and declined to Rs. 385 on jobbers' selling.

Some business is reported in Broach and Bengal in the bazar.

Ready Cotton is in limited demand.

Quotation are:—

M. G. Good Broach at Rs. 385.
M. G. Fully Good Bengal at Rs. 278.
M. G. K./Akola at Rs. 358.

APPROXIMATE QUOTATIONS AT MID-DAY.

Bombay, Feb. 27th.

DESCRIPTION.		DELIVERY. Mar. 1917	April 1917	SPOT COTTON
Broach,	Good M.G. ..	389	..	..
Broach,	Fine M.G. ..	397	393	.. New
Bengal,	F.G. M.G.	283	..	.. 280/90
Bengal,	Fine M.G.	282	..	.. 290/00
Bengal,	Superfine M.G. ..	..	..	.. 300/10
Rajputana,	Fine M.G. ..	..	..	.. 290/00
Sind Panjab,	Fine M.G. ..	..	..	.. 290/00
Kham. Akola	Fine M.G.	364	..	.. 345/65
Ellich/Amraoti,	Fine M.G. ..	..	..	.. 345/65
Dhamg /Pulgaon,	Fine M G ..	..	..	.. 350/70
Yeotmal,	Fine M G ..	..	..	.. 355/80
Nagpore,	Fine M G ..	..	..	.. 365/80
Hingt /Wardha,	Fine G M ..	..	..	.. 365/85
Khandeish,	Fine M G	351	..	.. 335/45
Khandeish,	F G M G	322	..	.. 305/15
Khandwa Sanawad,	F.G. M.G. ..	..	..	.. 300/15
Jalna	F.G. M.G. ..	..	..	.. 335/45
Indore,	F.G. M.G. ..	..	..	.. ..
Ujjain,	F.G. M.G. ..	..	..	.. ..
Nander,	F.G. M G ..	..	..	.. 400/20
Mathla,	Fine M G ..	..	..	.. 340/50
Mathla,	F G M G ..	..	..	.. 330/40
SawGinned Dharwar	Good Oct ..	..	..	.. ..
Coompta,	Good M G ..	..	..	.. ..
Westerns	Good M G ..	..	..	.. ..
Westerns,	Good H G ..	..	..	.. ..

APPROXIMATE QUOTATIONS AT MID-DAY.

Bombay, Feb. 28th.

DESCRIPTION.		DELIVERY. Mar. 1917	April 1917	SPOT COTTON
Broach,	Good M.G. ..	..	385	..
Broach,	Fine M.G. ..	392 3	389	.. New
Bengal,	F.G. M.G. ..	277	..	.. 275/85
Bengal,	Fine M.G. ..	287	..	.. 285/95
Bengal,	Superfine M.G. ..	..	..	.. 295/05
Rajputana,	Fine M.G. ..	..	..	.. 282/92
Sind Panjab,	Fine M.G. ..	289	..	.. 285/95
Kham. Akola	Fine M.G. ..	360	..	.. 340/55
Ellich/Amraoti,	Fine M G ..	..	..	.. 340/60
Dhamg./Pulgaon,	Fine M.G. ..	..	..	.. 350/65
Yeotmal,	Fine M.G. ..	..	..	.. 355/67
Nagpore,	Fine M.G. ..	..	..	.. 360/70
Hingt./Wardha,	Fine G.M. ..	..	..	.. 365/75
Khandeish,	Fine M.G. ..	347	..	.. 325/35
Khandeish,	F.G. M.G. ..	319	..	.. 300/15
Khandwa Sanawad,	F.G. M.G. ..	..	..	.. 300/15
Jalna	F.G. M.G. ..	..	..	.. 330/40
Indore,	F.G. M.G. ..	..	..	.. ..
Ujjain,	F.G. M.G. ..	..	..	.. ..
Nander,	F.G. M G ..	..	..	.. 390/00
Mathla,	Fine M.G. ..	..	..	.. 330/40
Mathla,	F.G. M.G. ..	..	..	.. 320/30
SawGinned Dharwar	Good Oct ..	..	..	.. ..
Coompta,	Good M G ..	..	..	.. ..
Westerns,	Good M G ..	..	..	.. ..
Westerns,	Good H G ..	..	..	.. ..

THE BOMBAY COTTON EXCHANGE CO., LD.

Market Quotation for Ready and Forward Delivery Contracts at fixed by the Rate Committee of the Exchange.

COLABA 28th February, 1917. 5-30 p.m.

Growths.	Super-fine	Fine	Fully Good	Delivery.
Bengals (M G)	303	292	282	.. Ready
Bengals (M G)	..	287	278	.. 1/25th Mar. 17
Scinde-Punjab (M G)	..	293	283	.. Ready
	..	289	280	.. 1/25th Mar. 17
Khandesh (M G)	..	353	328	.. Ready
	..	350	322	.. 1/25th Mar. 17
	..	..	..	..
Jalna (M G) G S	..	..	341	.. Ready
Barsee (M G) G S	..	..	365	.. Ready
Oomra M.G. (Fair-Staple.)	..	..	..	..
Akola Khaing.	..	359	341	.. Ready
Karanja(M.G.)	..	361	343	.. 1/25th Mar. 17
Oomrawatee descriptions (M.G.)	..	356	338	.. Ready
	..	359	341	.. 1/25th Mar. 17
Dhamangaum	..	361	343	.. Ready
Poolgaum(M.G.)	..	363	347	.. 1/25th Mar. 17
Yeotmal (M.G.)	..	364	346	.. Ready
	..	365	347	.. 1/25th Mar. 17
Nagpore	..	370	352	.. Ready
Kamptl (M.G.)	..	372	354	.. 1/25th Mar. 17
Wardha H'ghat (M.G.)	..	371	353	.. Ready
Broach (M.G.)	..	373	355	.. 1/25th Mar. 17
	..	392	..	.. Ready, New &
	..	..	..	.. 1/25th Mar 17
Wadhwan (M.G.)	..	390	..	386 1/25th Apl. 17
H.G.	..	408	393	.. Ready & New
	..	398	383	.. Ready & New
	..	..	..	..
Mathla	..	343	333	.. Ready
	..	340	332	.. 1/25th Mar. 17
Bhagalkote Bijapur (M.G.)	..	..	..	400 April/May 17
	..	..	..	..
Sawgd. Dharwar	..	..	..	402 April/May 17
	..	..	..	..
Westerns (M.G.)	..	..	..	395 May/June 17
Westerns (H.G.)	..	..	..	385 May/June 17
	..	..	..	..
Compta (M.G.)	..	..	..	..
	..	..	..	..
Miraj (M.G.)	..	..	..	406 April/May 17
	..	..	..	398 April/May 17

WHEAT AND SEEDS.

The following are to-day's closing rates as issued by the Marwari Chamber of Commerce

Bombay, Feb. 28th—4 p.m.

Ready.	Bazar Terms. Rs. a. p.	Rail. Delivery. Rs. a. p.
Wheat, White Delhi 70-30' ..	45 0 0	6 11 6
" White Cawnpore 70-30 ..	45 0 0	6 11 6
" Karachi Bangla ..	45 6 0	6 14 0
Rapeseed, Brown Delhi ..	0 4 0	6 10 0
" Brown Cawnpore ..	6 4 0	6 10 0
" Yellow Cawnpore' ..	6 8 0	6 14 0
Linseed, Brown Bold ..	8 10 0	9 5 0
" Brown Thin ..	8 10 0	9 0 0
Tedseed, White 56-10 ..	40 0 0	8 4 0
" Gujal 56-50 ..	44 0 0	8 0 0
" Gujal 56-00 ..	42 0 0	8 12 0
" Black	40 0 0	8 0 0
Popyseed, White	4 4 0	7 12 0
Groundnuts	43 0 0	.....
Mowhaseed	4 0 0	4 4 0
Jawa	34 0 0	5 5 0
Arandia	37 0 0	.....

Forward	Rs	a	p.
Wheat, April-May	6	5	0
Linseed, May	8	13	0
" Sept.	10	8	0

BULLION.

Feb. 28.

Silver market is steady and London has quoted quiet and there is little business passing.

English Bar Gold 27/14 Nominal.
Shield Sovreign 19-14 Nominal.
Dragon 15-13.
Silver Ready Ex-duty 91-4.
Silver 1 Sett Ex-duty 32-8.
Silver 2 Sett Ex-duty 90-11.

EXCHANGE.

Is unchanged.
Bank Telegraphic Transfer 1/4 7/32.
Bank Demand Drafts 1/4 9/32.
3 Months Sight Credits 1/4 19/32.
3 Months Sight Francs 19¼.
60 days Sight Japan 151.

GOVERNMENT PAPER.

3½ per cent Government Paper is quoted at 66.
4 per cent Conversion Loan at 79 nominal.

SHARES.

The market for Mill shares opened steady but later on weak holders were sellers owing to the approaching settlement. For March, Standards were placed at prices varying from 1,455 to 1,440 and closed at 1,455. Madhawjis at prices varying from 1,545 to 1,515 and closed at 1,520. Kazulbhoys between 612/8 to 605 and closed at 607/8.

David were quoted at 437/8, Nagpurs at 2,145, Swedeshis at 1,645, Crescents at 197/8, Bombay United at 655, Pearls at 480.

Alcocks went down to 780 x.d. and Shivrajpurs to 34.

Katnis were quoted at 232/8 for ords. and went down to 220 and closed at 222/8 and Defds were quoted at 795. Tata ords were quoted at 220 Ex-right and Defds at 825 X right.

Bombay Trams went down to 297/8 and Tata Hydro to 1,035.

The closing tendency of the market was quiet but steady.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company.

(Incorporated in England).

Comparative Statement of Traffic Earnings for week ending 24th February 1917.

Approximate Earnings for week ending 24th Feb, 1917.	Total for the week. Rs.	Total to date. Rs.
G. I. P. Rly.	22,19,000	4,14,75,951
A. D. C. Rly.	74,400	12,02,732
B. K. Rly.	4,300	66,837
C. B. Rly.'	12,300	1,34,375
Total ..	23,11,000	4,28,79,895
Earnings for corresponding 7 days ending 24th Feb 1916.		
G. I. P. Rly.	24,31,257	4,20,21,364
A. D. C. Rly.	77,230	12,46,352
B. K. Rly.	4,098	97,019
C. B. Rly.'	13,705	1,93,152
Total ..	25,26,790	4,35,57,887
Inc. or Dec. G. I. P. Rly.	—2,12,257	—5,45,413
Inc. or Dec. A. D. C. Rly.	—2,030	—43,620
Inc. or Dec. B. K. Rly.	— 98	—30,182
Inc. or Dec. C. B. Rly.	—1,405	—58,777

Central Provinces Railways.

Approximate Earnings for week ending 24th Feb, 1917.	Total for the week. Rs.	Total to date. Rs.
Earnings for corresponding 7 days ending 24th Feb, 1916 ..	14,400	2,91,915
	12,411	2,38,006
Increase or Decrease	+1,989	+53,909

Dhond Baramati Light Railway.

Approximate Earnings for week end ng 24th Feb, 191.	Total for the week. Rs.	Total to date. Rs.
Earnings for corresponding 7 days ending 24th Feb, 1916 ..	1,300	25,895
	1,465	23,073
Increase or Decrease	+335	+2,822

NOTE.—Corrected with Audited figures upto 31st December 1916.

POONA ENGINEERING COLLEGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE CHRONICLE."

Sir,—So many complaints were recently made through the medium of your valuable paper regarding the management of our only Engineering College at Poona that, I would not have liked to have added one more in them, had it not been for the fact that if it were allowed to pass on unnoticed it would establish a very bad and regrettable precedence in filling in appointments in Government service in this country in future.

Will any honorable member please ask the Government in the meeting of the Legislative Council why a vacancy of a professor of civil engineering was filled in quietly at the College by engaging in India a junior member of the staff of a railway company—appointing him directly in the Imperial Indian Education Service—without publicly inviting applications by advertisements from amongst members of all classes and creeds, and selecting the best possible man therefrom, whether he be an Indian or European?

There are many England-traind Indian Engineers having long and wide local experience—longer and wider than that of the men quietly and stealthily selected—who would have liked to compete for the vacant post; but it seems as if to debar such qualified Indians from competing for this post that such a strange procedure was adopted?—Yours, etc.

ENGLAND-RETURNED.

COMPANY REPORTS.

THE KATNI CEMENT AND INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.

The fifth annual general meeting of the above Company was held yesterday at their registered offices, Sir Sassoon J. David (Chairman) presiding.

The following report was submitted to the shareholders. The Company had made a profit of Rs. 625,993-15-3 including Rs. 1,80,13-4-11 brought forward from last year's account. Out of this, Rs. 95,812-8 had been paid as dividends on both ordinary and preference shares during the first half year. The balance was disposed of as follows:—

To write off the whole balance of preliminary expenses Rs 15,993-9-11; to write off the whole balance of brokerage on shares and debentures Rs. 19,336-11-7; to depreciation on machinery account Rs 1,00,000; to depreciation of buildings account Rs 50,000; to reserve fund Rs. 1,00,000. Dividend on Preference shares at 7 p.c. per annum for 6 months ended 31st December 1916 Rs 17,500; dividend on Ordinary shares at Rs. 9 per share (making in all 12 per cent per annum) free of Income tax Rs. 1,20,904; dividend on Deferred Shares at Rs. 26-13-9 per share (making in all 117 1/8 per cent free of Income tax Rs. 73,104; bonus to staff Rs 9,000; and balance to be carried forward Rs. 19,188-2-2.

The Chairman in the course of his remarks said:

The Directors' Report which is in your hands describes the work of your company during the past year, it is a satisfactory report, I think, and I hope it is considered by the shareholdrs, satisfactory to them.

I am glad to be able to tell you that the quality of our cement has been maintained up to the latest British Standard Specification, and the Katni "Castle" brand of cement is well reported on, by all the principal buyers of cement throughout India. We are supplying most of the Railways in India, the Executive Engineers of the Public Works Department, the Bombay Municipality, the Port Trust, the Irrigation Department, etc., and as a matter of fact, we are unable to supply the present large demand for our cement, and we have sold our production months ahead.

The General Manager reports that the machinery has been running smoothly during the past year, and has exceeded the production which the makers guaranteed, at the time of purchase.

Our Calcutta agents, Messrs. Martin and Co., have supported us well with large sales in their district, during the past year. Messrs. W. Jacks and Co. have the sole selling right for the Punjab and North West, and we hope to develop these markets greatly.

We have been much hampered in our deliveries of cement during the past few months, by the scarcity of wagons, and we have disappointed many of our largest buyers thereby.

The prospects of the Cement Industry are good, and I think we may congratulate ourselves, on the steady progress we have made.

Turning to the subsidiary industries, the Pottery Works have not done so well as we expected. We had to part with the Manager whom we had there last year, and we engaged a very competent manager in England, at the end of last year, but he was unable to come out to India on account of the war, and we will have to hold this matter over, I fear, until the termination of the War.

We have sold fair quantities of Bauxite and French Chalk.

Sir Sassoon J. David and Mr. Narottam Morarji were reappointed directors for the ensuing year.

SIMPLE MILLS CO. LTD,

The annual general meeting of this company was held yesterday afternoon, Sir Shapurji Broacha occupying the chair

The report stated:

You will be glad to observe from the accounts for the year ending 31st December 1916 that the Company has made a nett profit of Rs. 6,65,966-15-1 exclusive of Rs. 7,912-14-3. Out of the said amount, Rs. 55,710 have been applied towards paying an ad-interim dividend for the six months ending 30th June 1916 at the rate of Rs. 15 per share. Your Directors recommend that out of the balance, Rs. 1,00,000 be transferred to the Machinery Depreciation Account, Rs. 2,00,000 to the Reserve Fund, Rs. 3,914 to the Preliminary Charges Account, Rs. 10,000 to the Construction Charges Account, and Rs. 5,000 to Commission and Brokerage Account. Subject to your sanction it is proposed to apply the balance of Rs. 2,95,269-11-6 as follows:—

Dividend for six months ending 31st December 1916 at Rs. 50 per share, Rs. 2,40,000; bonus to Office and Mill Staff, Rs. 3,702; and balance to be carried forward to next year, Rs. 51,567-11-6.

During the year under review the Company issued 856 shares at a premium of Rs. 2,21,500 which which sum has been carried to the credit of the land purchase account, the Company being under an agreement to acquire by the 1st February 1920 the land on which the Mills stand for a sum of about Rs. 2,98,000.

The Mill Buildings and Machinery together with Cotton, Yarn, Cloth, Stores etc., have been insured in the sum of Rs. 48,05,000.

CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH.

The Chairman, in placing the report before the meeting, said the company had been prosperous from the very beginning and had been rising higher and higher. The next year's prospects were also very bright as cotton had been purchased at a cheap rate and he hoped the prosperity would continue. All the credit, for this state of things was due to the agents and their management.

The report was passed and the recommendations adopted. Sir Shapurji B. Broacha and Mr. F. E. Dinshaw were reappointed directors, and Mr. Mathradas Goculdas was appointed an additional director.

NEW EAST INDIA PRESS CO LTD.

The 42nd annual General Meeting of the shareholders of the above company was held yesterday, Mr. Lalji Naranji Presiding. The report stated:

"The year's working has resulted in a profit of Rs. 88,998-10-5 including the balance of Rs. 3,975-8-4 brought forward from the preceding year. Out of this sum your Directors have written off towards Depreciation, Rs. 14,020; and set aside towards Equalization of Dividend Fund, Rs. 25,000; and Extension of Machinery and Building Fund, Rs. 14,000; leaving balance available for disposal, Rs. 35,978-10-5 which the Directors recommend may be dealt with as under:—Dividend at Rs. 80 per share on 348 shares, Rs. 27,840; and Bonus to Company's Employees, Rs. 3,000. Your Pressing Factories at Jalgaon, Akola, Murtizapore and Karanja worked during the season under joint agreement. The Pressing Factories at Bassim and Barsi though in joint Agreement remained silent during the season. No joint agreement existed in respect of Pressing at Karmala and Ginning at Murtizapore Akola and Nagerdevla. Your Directors feel pleasure to report that a Ginning Factory containing 30 Gins with land Buildings, Engine Boiler etc., has been purchased for Rs. 17,000 at Kachgaon in East Khandeish in September last.

The report was passed and Messrs. Lalji Naranji and Karsandas Thackersey, the retiring directors were re-appointed.

INDIAN MERCANTILE INSURANCE CO., LTD.

The Directors' Report, for the year ending 31st December 1916, states that 713 New Policies were issued last year over and above a large number of renewals and the net premium earned by the Company amounted to Rs. 71,812, interest and other receipts amounting to Rs. 24,032.

Only 44 petty claims for fire losses aggregating to Rs. 5,257 were paid during the year, the average per claim working out at Rs. 119.

Deducting the above mentioned sum of Rs. 5,257 and other items of expenditure viz., Rs. 16,145 and after having written off the sum of Rs. 50,000 for depreciation of securities the Company has earned a net revenue of Rs. 24,462-4-1 which amount together with the last year's balance of Rs. 5,613 makes up a total sum of Rs. 30,075. This sum the Directors recommend to appropriate as under:—

For payment of Dividend at the rate of Rs. 1-4 per share absorbing Rs. 26,441-4-0.

For payment of bonus to the office staff Rs. 467.

To be written off on Furniture account Rs. 1,000.

To be carried forward to next year's account Rs. 2,167-11-4.

Total Rs. 30,075-15-4.

EMPEROR EDWARD SPG & MFG CO., LTD.

The Report of the Directors and the Audited Accounts of the above Company for the year ended 31st December 1916 show that the Company has made during the year a net profit of Rs. 4,67,386-12-10. Out of this the Directors have transferred Rs. 1,74,000 to Machinery Depreciation Fund, Rs. 25,000 to Building Depreciation Fund Rs. 10,000 to Reserve Fund, Rs. 20,000 to Equalisation of Dividend Fund and Rs. 3,500 towards payment of bonus to the Company's Mill and Office staff. An *ad-interim* dividend of Rs. 25 per share was paid, and the Directors have now declared a further dividend of Rs. 35 per share leaving a balance of Rs. 12,957 for the next account.

The Report *inter alia* states that during the year under review there was a brisk demand for both yarn and cloth and the the Directors have no doubt that the Shareholders will consider the above results highly satisfactory, particularly the result for the second half of the year.

Two of the Directors Messrs. Dady Nusserwanji and Phirozsha Bomanji Petit retire by rotation on this occasion. They are however eligible for re-election.

TEMPERATURE IN BOMBAY.

GOVERNMENT OBSERVATORY COLABA.

Bombay, 27th Feb 1917.

Means of observations taken at 6 a.m 11 a.m. 9 p m 4 p m and 10 p.m	
Barometer corrected to 31 deg Fans....	29.749 Inch.
Temperature of Air	77.9 Deg.
Wet Bulb Thermometer	67.0 "
Deg Point	61.2 "
Relative humidity of Air	0.565 "
Extent of cloudy sky (the whole sky Monday—10)	0.0 "
Maximum temperature of Air	85.9 "
Minimum.....do.....	68.1 "
General direction of Wind from midnight to midnight	N,ENE,WNW,NNW
Movement of Wind do. do.	149 Miles.

SUN, MOON AND TIDES AT BOMBA

The following are the hours and heights of the tides in Bombay Harbour during the ensuing week. Hour stated in Bombay Mean Time depth of water is at Prince's Dock:—

Day of Week.	Day of Month	HIGH WATER. Bombay Mean time.		Depth on Still.		LOW WATER. Day of mth.	Bombay Mean time.		Depth on Still	
	Feb.	h.	m.	ft.	in.	Feb.	h.	m.	ft.	in.
Wed	28	m	3	17	2s	28	m	9	39	17 5
	Mar.		4	42a	7s	4 Mar		10	16a	21 7
Thur	1	m	4	5	24	1	m	10	35	18 6
			6	13a	24	7				
Fri.	2	m	5	8	23	2	m	0	45	22 3
			8	22a	24	9		0	4a	19 2
Sat.	3	m	6	58	22	11	m	2	45	21 8
			10	26a	25	3		1	40a	19 3
Sun.	4	m	8	46	23	4	m	3	35	20 10
			10	3a	26	1		2	41a	18 11
Mon.	5	m	9	38	24	2	m	4	0	20 0
			10	30a	26	0		3	36a	18 1
Tues	6	m	10	16	25	1	m	4	32	19 1
			10	54a	27	3		4	5a	17 10

The following are the hours of sunrise and sunset according to Indian Standard Time during the ensuing week:—

Feb	Sunrise	Sunset.
" 28 (Wednesday)	" 7h. 0m.	" 6h. 44m.
Mar. 1 (Thursday)	" 6h. 59m.	" 6h. 44m.
" 2 (Friday)	" 6h. 58m.	" 6h. 44m.
" 3 (Saturday)	" 6h. 57m.	" 6h. 45m.
" 4 (Sunday)	" 6h. 56m.	" 6h. 45m.
" 5 (Monday)	" 6h. 56m.	" 6h. 46m.
" 6 (Tuesday)	" 6h. 55m.	" 6h. 46m.

PHASES OF THE MOON:—

First Quarter	1917	Jan.	30th	6h. 31.5m. a.m.
Full Moon	1917	Feb.	7th	8h. 58.4m. a.m.
Last Quarter		"	15th	7h. 23.2m. a.m.

THE LADY OF THE REMOUNT DEPOT.

VICAR'S FIFTY POUNDS.

The "Pall Mall Gazette" Correspondent at Maidenhead, writing on January 26, says:—

The Maidenhead magistrates investigated a serious charge against Miss Elinor Horrocks, a well-connected lady groom, formerly in charge of the remount depot at Hooyport, Maidenhead, where a large staff of lady grooms was engaged.

The Public Prosecutor alleges that the accused obtained from the Rev. H. D. S. Sweetapple, vicar of Coombe Down, Bath, £50 by false pretences, on the ground that the War Office required a guarantee in money from her before she could take over the management of another remount depot. She became acquainted with Mr. Sweetapple through taking over for training a young lady in whose career the vicar was interested.

A FURTHER CHARGE.

Mr. Harker, for the Public Prosecutor, said that it was felt by the authorities, especially at this time when the activities of the War Office and other departments stretched in so many directions, that a matter of this kind should be publicly investigated, as some protection to the public which was asked to give money on such specious stories.

He mentioned a further charge against the prisoner of obtaining £100 from a lady whom she told that the War Office had got the money, and she (prisoner) had to find a "little bit more." Evidence in support of the charges was given.

Prisoner was brought up in custody on remand from a preliminary hearing, bail having been refused.

Under the auspices of the Historical and Economic Association, Fergusson College Poona, Prof. V. G. Kale, will deliver to-day, at 5-30 p.m., in the wadia amphitheatre of the Fergusson College the first of a series of lectures on political and economic subjects, the subject of his lecture being "How the war is financed."

THE LATE SIR DINSHAW PETIT AND POLITICS.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE CHRONICLE."

Sir,—I submit that the recent public gathering to unveil the statue of our great Captain of Industry Sir Dinshaw Petit has not done justice to one phase of his public life as a public spirited citizen in all matters affecting the Provincial and Imperial problems. The encomiums lavished on Sir Dinshaw as pioneer of Mill Industry, as a large-hearted philanthropist and as supporter of many social and religious movements and institutions are quite deserved. No less Sir Dinshaw's memory deserves to be cherished and honoured for his active help to and co-operation with not only the nascent political activity of the old Bombay Association, the East India Association (London) and its Bombay Branch (of which Mr. Pherozeshah Mehta and Mr. Dal Mangesh Wagle were Secretaries) but the Bombay Presidency Association which has deservedly been called the Premier Political Association of Western India. Sir Dinshaw as Secretary of as President of these Political Bodies sent many an able Memorial and Petition to Responsible Functionaries of the Crown and guided as President deliberations of many a public meeting under the auspices of these Associations. It does no small credit to Sir Dinshaw Petit that a mere business man, and pioneer of Mill Industry without any pretensions to modern education, he should have worked shoulder to shoulder with Mr. Nowroji Furdunji and Mr. V. N. Mundlik in the past and with Mr. K. T. Telang, Mr. Badruddin Tyabji and Mr. F. M. Mehta and the Hon. Mr. Wacha in the present. That Sir Dinshaw was not what we call a mere agitrehead in the sphere of political activity, can be easily testified to, by the Minute Books of the Managing Committee of these bodies and by the published reports of the labours of these Associations. Moreover, his princely donations and endowments were given with equal liberality and magnanimity to the promotion and advancement of the political activities of these bodies. One thing on which Sir Dinshaw was very keen (a significant testimony to his political sagacity and intuition) was Sir Dinshaw's conviction that all political work, however, ably piloted here, would not succeed in its aim and object unless and until the British Press, Parliament and public men in England were kept in touch with the sound and weighty articles on Indian questions appearing in our Indian papers, by a responsible organ published here or in England and distributed broadcast in England to neutralise the doubtful (if not positively mischievous) activity of Anglo-Indian Newspapers in India and of many partisan and one-sided editions in English papers and periodicals by retired Anglo-Indians. In this connection Sir Dinshaw was much after Sir W. Wedderburn, Mr. Dadabhoy Nowroji, Sir P. M. Mehta, Mr. K. T. Telang and the Hon'ble D. E. Wacha with the result that "Voice of India" came into existence. It is a matter of no small significance that like Sir Dinshaw many a prominent Snethia of our community was well connected with all political activities of these Associations in the past. The list of subscriptions and donations to these bodies came to a very princely sum. These few on-hand items, will, I trust, inspire the managing committee of Sir Dinshaw Petit Memorial to go the volumes of the Reports of the Bombay Association, Bombay Presidency Association and the East India Association to prepare an account of Sir Dinshaw Petit's political activity. Writing of Sir Dinshaw Petit of the past an old type Parsi Millionaire, we feel naturally proud that the present Sir Dinshaw Petit and Mr. Jehangir Petit should be seen walking in the foot-steps of their revered grandfather.

The old guards in Parsi Political and Public life activity have gone. Mr. Dadabhoy in retirement, Mr. D. E. Wacha to the great delight of all is pursuing his old activity. In his green-old age he cannot do a better service to the Indian community at large and to his community in particular than by addressing himself to the task of writing an historical account of Parsis in Political and Public life from the earliest times for the education of the present generation of the Parsis. Many instructive morals can be drawn and many a lesson taken by Mr. Wacha's wished for contribution. In times like this when people of different communities and races castes and creeds are awakening to political activity and when Parsis want to live in sleepy hollow as regards Politics and Public life a brochure from Mr. Wacha's pen will not be a day too soon.

Whilst the above was being typed I have been able to lay my hand on the minutes of proceedings (1870) of the Bombay Association. The contents of these minutes historically are very useful and interesting. For the purposes of the letter I reproduce the following facts. In the beginning of the year 1873, Mr. Naoroji Furdoonji was deputed to proceed to London and to place before the Parliamentary Committee (popularly known as Fawcett Committee) on Indian Finance which had been engaged in taking evidence in London of European Officials, most of whom had made one-sided and in many instances incorrect representations and had exhibited a bias in favour of the administration of affairs as conducted by Government under the present faulty system. being necessity to counteract the effect of such testimony to place before the Indian Finance Committee the real facts and views of our countrymen, Mr. Naoroji was deputed to give evidence on behalf not only of the Bombay Association but also on behalf of the Poona Sarvajnic Sabha. Amongst the donations towards this important undertaking we notice with delight and pleasure that Mr. Dinshaw M. Petit of the day gave a handsome cheque for Rs. 500.

Mr. Nowroji appeared before the Finance Committee on 17th June, 1873, and his examination, which continued for 7 days, was concluded on 22nd July. Those who know Mr. Nowroji Furdoonji need not be assured that he gave evidence in details supported by authentic facts and reliable data. In the course of the evidence Mr. Nowroji was subjected to a searching cross-examination by the Rt. Hon. A. S. Ayrton, Chairman, and several other members of the Finance Committee. The Bombay Association was thoroughly satisfied with the manner in which Mr. Nowroji Furdoonji discharged the enorous and responsible mission entrusted to him. Your reader's curiosity can be well satisfied by reference to the Official Record in the 3rd Report of the Indian Finance Committee published in the Parliamentary Blue Book Nov. 1873, p. 366 to 414, p. 463 to 478 and p. 529 to 542.

S. B. M.

Bombay, February, 1917.

STANDARD BAROMETER READING.

The following information is published in order that vessels in the Bombay Harbour may by comparison with a standard instrument ascertain the errors of their barometers:—

The reading of the Standard Barometer in the Colaba Observatory corrected for index error and reduced to 80 deg. F. and to the level of the tide, at 8-45 a.m., Standard Time, on the 28th February 1917 was 30.017 inches. For temperature corrections applicable to mercurial barometer of ships the reading of the ship's barometer has to be increased or decreased by 0.31 inch for every 5 degrees according as the temperature of the attached thermometer is respectively below or above 80 deg. F. In case of the aneroid no temperature correction is needed. But for comparison at 80 deg. F. all aneroid readings should be increased by .138 inch. For correcting the ship's barometer either mercurial or aneroid for the height of the barometer cistern above the tide level in the stream at 8-45 a.m., Standard Time, the ship's barometer reading should be increased by .010 inch for every 10 feet of the height to make it comparable with the observatory barometer reading given.

THE WEATHER

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)

SIMLA, Feb. 28.

The depression affecting north of India has only given some light sn

BOMBAY CITY AND SUBURBS.

TO-DAY.

Parsi: 22nd of Sheherewar, 1286.
Mahomedan: 6th Jamadee-ul-Auwal, 1335.
Hindu: 8th of Fagun Sud, 1973.
Sunrise: 6 59m.; **Sunset:** 6h. 44m.

LOCAL ENTERTAINMENTS.

Excelsior Theatre: "The Scamp" at 9-45 p.m.
Meeting of members and their friends of Bombay Natural History Society at 6-15 p.m.

FRIDAY, March 2.

Mails for the Mesopotamia Expeditionary Force, Henjam, Muscat, Fao, Bushire Koweit, Jask, Charbar Linga, Bahrein, Dubai, Bunderabas, Mohomerah and Busra will be closed at the Bombay General Post Office at 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, March 4.

Excelsior Theatre: Matinee at 6-30 p.m. "The Scamps."

DAILY.

Excelsior Theatre: The "Scamps" at 9-45 and Cinema at 6-30.
Empire Theatre: "The Light that Failed" at 6-30, 8-30 and 10 p.m.
Royal Opera House: 5-30 and 9-30 p.m.
Palace of Varieties: at 6-30 and 10 p.m. every Wednesday, Saturday and Monday, 10 p.m., Show every Sunday at 6-30 at Edwardes.
New Alexandra Cinema, Lohar Chawl, Princess Street.
Olympia Cinema, Sandhurst Road.
West End Cinema, Charni Road: 6-45, 8-30 and 10.
New Alhambra Cinema, Sandhurst Road, 7, 8-45 and 10-30.
Anglo-American Cinema, Sandhurst Road, 7, 8-45 and 10-30.

RAILWAY TIME TABLE

G. I. P. RAILWAY.

	Arr. H. M.	Dep. H. M.
Punjab Mail	16 0	14 25
Calcutta Mail (via Jubbulpore)	15 0	21 0
Calcutta Mail (via Nagpur)	9 15	13 0
Madras Mail	8 10	21 30
Poona Mail	11 15	14 45
Delhi Express (3rd & Inter-Class)	8 40	7
Poona Express	19 35	7 55
South East Passenger	19 35 & 24	

Punjab, Calcutta and Madras Postal Expresses. (Departure seven hours after Mail Steamer is signalled.)

B. B. & C. I. RAILWAY.

	Arr. H. M.	Dep. H. M.
Northern Express	11 35	17 0
Gujarat Mail	9 35	21 0
Rajkiwal Express 3rd Class	7 40	21 20
Slow Passenger	20 00	7 45

1ST BOMBAY TROOP BADEN POWELL BOY SCOUTS.

Orders for the week ending Friday, March 2nd 1917:—

Wednesday 28th:—Field clothes parade on Maidan at 5-00 p.m. Ambulance instructions, Tenderfoot and 2nd Class tests. Clubs.—Knot tying and hand signal drill.

Saturday March 3rd:—Uniform parade on Maidan at 3-15 p.m. Field day on Malabar Hill. Staves to be carried.

Appointments.—Scout J. Bedford to be Actg. Second Kangaroo Patrol.

Cub Barnes to Kangaroo Patrol.

Uniform:—Will those who are not yet in possession of shoulder knots and green tabs, please apply to A. S. M. for same.

ALFRED G. FOOX,
A. S. M. in charge, 1st Bombay.

BOMBAY LIGHT HORSE.

Riding School Salsette Detachment.—There will be Riding school for "C" and "D" Troops at the Camp Riding school on Friday next, the 2nd instant at 7 a.m. Dress.—Drill order, khaki shirts, rifles, swords and bandoliers.

Proficiency Class.—Proficiency Class for N.C. Officers and men will be held under Major Wadia (L.A.) at the Volunteer Club on Tuesday and Thursday evening at 6-15 p.m.

Registration.—Members are requested to note that they must register personally at the Police Headquarters before March 2nd 1917.

F. C. ANNESLEY 2nd Lieut.,
Actg. Adjutant, Bombay Light Horse.

POONA VOLUNTEER RIFLES.

POONA, Feb. 28.

222 Drill and Instruction.—Parades for the week ending 3rd March 1917:—
AT HEADQUARTERS:
Buglers, Wednesday and Saturday at 5-30 p.m.

First Aid Class, Saturday at 6 p.m.
AT THE ENGINEERING COLLEGE:
E Company, Wednesday at 5-30 p.m.

223. Miniature Range.—Miniature Rifle Club, Wednesday and Saturday at 7-30 a.m.

224. Range.—The Rifle range will be reserved for B Company on Wednesday 7th March and for A Company on Thursday 8th March.

225. Military Service.—All members of the Corps resident in Poona Collectorate who are European British Subjects and are not Government servants or Railway employees should apply to Headquarters at once for Form A of the Registration Ordinance 1917.

Members are reminded that they must register by 2-3-17.

(Sd.) A. R. KEARSEY, 2nd Lieut.,
Adjutant, Poona Vol. Rifles.

BAND AT THE P. V. MERY GYMKHANA.

By kind permission of Colonel J. W. Bonner D. and Officers, the Band of the 1st Battn., G. I. P. Ry. Volunteers, will play this evening a programme of music, under the direction of Mr. Hugh B. Mitchell, Band Master, commencing at 6-15.

ST. JOSEPH'S HOME, AGRIPADA.

A charity sermon will be preached on Sunday the 4th inst., at 6-30 p.m., by the Rev. Father Wallroth, at St. Anne's Church Nesbit Road, Mazagon, in aid of St. Joseph's Home, Agripada.

BOMBAY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

A meeting of members and their friends will be held at the Society's rooms this evening at 6, Apollo Street, at 6-15 when the statement of Accounts for 1916 will be presented by Mr. L. Robertson, C. S. I., and a paper will be read by Rev. E. Blatter, S. J., on "Notes on a collection of Plants made by Capt. Hotson, in Persian Baluchistan."

CRUSHED TO DEATH BY COAL STACK

The Deputy Coroner held an inquest on the body of one Bhawanidin Pathoo, aged 60. It was stated that the deceased was working in the Textile Mill and a stack of coal in the compound gave way, which some men went there to put it right they saw a pair of knees protruding and when the coal was removed the deceased was found to be dead. He was a labourer of coal lighterers. The jury returned a verdict, that death was caused by coal falling on the deceased.

MORTALITY IN BOMBAY.

Nine attacks and seven deaths from plague and six attacks and three deaths from Small-pox occurred in Bombay on Tuesday, followed from each of Mahim and Sandhurst, two attacks and two deaths from Plague being recorded and one death from Variolous, Colaba, one attack each from Worli and Girgaum and one death from Mahomedan Hospital. The total Mortality from all causes was 90, as compared with 91 of the corresponding day of 1916 and 62 of 1915.

A TRAMWAY FATALITY.

The Deputy Coroner held an Inquest on the body of a Sandwarri boy, Wadhumal Tekchand, it was stated that when two Trams were coming from opposite directions at the junction of Carnac Bunder Road and Chakla Road, the deceased ran behind one car and came in front of another and collided with it. His head struck the right front fender of the car and the deceased fell on his back, receiving injuries. He died in the S. P. J. J. Hospital, where he had been removed. The jury returned a Verdict of Accidental Death and exonerated the driver from all blame.

DEATH ACCELERATED BY ARSENIC DOSE.

The Deputy Coroner continued the enquiry yesterday morning into the death of Lachmi Narayan, a Sadwarri labourer, who died soon after taking his food on the 15th instant. The Chemical Analyser to whom the Viscera had been sent had reported that arsenic was detected in the contents of the stomach, and in the liver and kidney.

Dr. Archer Powell was of the opinion that death was primarily due to malaria. There were no definite signs of arsenic poisoning. The jury returned a verdict that death was due to malarial and spleen diseases, death being accelerated by vomitting due to his having taken a small quantity of arsenic; that there was no evidence to show whether the deceased had taken the arsenic himself or who administered it to him.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.

An entire change of programme takes place at the Palace of Varieties (daily Theatre) today and the programme includes a number of attractions. Miss Mona, the popular soubrette, who is paying a return visit to Bombay, appears in a number of catchy choral songs. Miss Mona at once puts the audience in good humour. Mr. C. Morris, the comedian, will appear in new, humorous songs and dances. Miss Essie Jennings, the Australian star, will give some more excellent patriotic songs out of her extensive repertoire.

On the picture side of the programme, the Children of the Circus is a thrilling circus drama, which grips the attention of the audience from start to finish. The situations are sensational in the extreme and some big performing animals, such as Elephants, are seen in the picture.

It is altogether an excellent programme, which nobody should miss seeing.

THE SOUTH INDIAN CLUB.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE CHRONICLE."

Sir,—I welcome Mr. Ramaswami Iyer's reply to my letter in columns, inviting all South Indians in Bombay to join the club and hope that it would find a ready response. However, I owe it to myself to state that when I wrote to you it was from no mere spirit of carping. Attempts for starting a South Indian Association were begun a year ago and it took all these years to approach and interest the elderly South Indians. Mr. Ramaswami is absolutely wrong in supposing that I have been to the South Indian Club to know what its working is like. When we had a preliminary general meeting last year, a certain gentleman sent an emissary of his to tell the assembly that he would take part in the Association if all people subscribed to his interest. He also would have it that student members should have no voice in the affairs of the Association. Well, to my mind this was intolerable and I was one of the two men who rose publicly to resent this attitude on the part of one whose mature guidance we wished to have and who ought duly to have appreciated the confidence of his fellow countrymen. To me this bodes no good but some members would have the co-operation of that gentleman. Reflecting upon the matter I also thought it was better for all to unite in the Association and I have been consistently telling many people to be patient. This is reason No. 1 for the apprehensions that I share with many others.

Then the committee brought into being by the general body was blown up by God knows whom. That committee met once and after talking loud and long dispersed. I never heard of it again. Sometime later through some friends I came to know that a South Indian Club had been formed and that a particular number of members had undertaken to guarantee a certain income monthly towards the expenses of the Club and that they could have all the management to themselves, for what else could they do when they had no other members? Some more time elapsed and I heard that the Club had decided to allow others also to become members. This was, I think, over a month ago and three or four days ago, I saw the announcement about the Club in your paper. Hence my fears were not unfounded.

I was given to understand by one of the secretaries, that the "guarantors' would have the sole voice in the management of the Club. The invitation moreover to South Indians to join has been unduly delayed, and what is more the rules and regulations are ready-made and the office-bearers appointed already.

I have given my grounds for what I wrote and I think that no South Indian in Bombay with self-respect ought to join the club until his voice in its affairs is assured. For if he does and thus consents to submit to the dictations of those who, for reasons best known to themselves, demand implicit obedience from all, he would be attempting to ensure the failure of the Association and the nullification of the objects with which it was originally intended to found a South Indian Association.—Yours, etc.

G. S. RAGHAVAN.

Bombay, 27th February, 1917.

The number of registration forms forwarded to the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, now totals 3,920.

HIGH COURT.

APPELLATE SIDE.

CONVICTION OF MURDER ON HIS OWN PLEA.

RETRIAL ORDERED.

LAXMYA BIN SHIDDAPPA V. THE KING-EMPEROR.

(Before Justices Batchelor and Shah.)

This was an appeal against the decision of Mr. V. M. Peiris, Additional Sessions Judge of Dharwar. In this case the accused was convicted of murder on his own plea and was sentenced to death under section 302 of the Indian Penal Code.

The accused was the inhabitant of Hosur in the Dharwar District. He had a quarrel with a woman viz. Chinnawwa on the morning of the day of the murder and on the same day he murdered the deceased with an iron bar.

The accused pleaded guilty to the offence of his plea he had made with his own mouth unequivocally and unreservedly.

The Sessions Judge in passing the sentence of death observed: "The present is a case in which a sentence of death would normally follow upon a plea of guilty. The Judge passes a sentence of death without anxious searchings of heart, and if I could see any prospect of lightening my responsibility by recording evidence, I should have proceeded so to do. It does not appear to be the intention of the legislature that a Court of sessions should ordinarily proceed with a trial after a plea of guilty."

THE PRACTICE OF THE COURTS.

Mr. Justice Batchelor in delivering judgment observed:—

"This is a case of some peculiarity inasmuch as the appellant has been convicted of murder on his own plea and has been sentenced to death, there being no evidence recorded in the Court of Session. The learned Judge below has explained very carefully and fully why he adopted the course of convicting the accused on his own plea, and it seems to me clear from the judgment that the learned Judge gave the matter much consideration and acted as he thought for the best in the circumstances of some hovelty. Nor can it be said, at least in my opinion, that the learned Judge was definitely wrong on any point of law. Probably if his attention had been called to the practice of the Courts in such circumstances he would have acted otherwise. That practice is defined by Sir L. Jenkins C.J. and Mr. Justice Russell in Emperor v. Chinna 5 Bom. L. R. 240 where it is laid down that "it is not in accordance with the usual practice to accept a plea of guilty in a case where the natural sequence would be a sentence of death." The learned Judge below points to section 271 Criminal Procedure Code and observes quite correctly that he was bound to record the accused's plea of guilty. The section, however, though it directs that the plea should be recorded, does not direct that the accused shall be convicted thereon; but only that he may be so convicted, that is to say, it is left to the discretion of the presiding Judge in each particular case to determine whether in spite of the plea it is or it is not desirable to enter upon the evidence. In the present case, the practical difficulty as entailed on the accused's conviction on his mere plea is obvious. For the question which we have to determine is, assuming that the appellant is guilty of the murder, whether the sentence of death should or should not be enforced. Now that is a question which could only be answered when the circumstances of the crime are known to us, and the circumstances of the crime are not known to us. It may be that there are cases of murder whether the circumstances would be so clear that a bench of this Court would have no difficulty in confirming the capital sentence on the accused's mere plea of guilty. But this is not such a case.

ACCUSED'S PLEA OF UNSOUND MIND.

In the Magistrate's Court we understand, some evidence was led with a view to the inference that the accused was of unsound mind, and that is the plea which is the basis of his present appeal to us. There is nothing on our record which would enable us to say whether that plea is substantial or groundless. It is urged on behalf of the appellant that the crime itself was committed without any assignable motive and on the other hand it is contended that there was some quarrel pending the crime and that that quarrel led to the deceased's murder. It is precisely upon such points as these that we desire information in order to guide us to a decision whether capital sentence is deserved. Was there a quarrel between the deceased and the accused prior to the offence, and, if so, what was its nature and by what interval did it precede the offence?

"These are questions upon which it is manifestly important for us to have an answer. They are, however, questions upon which on this record we have no answer. Therefore, in this particular case it seems to me that the learned Sessions Judge would have been better advised if he had taken the evidence available and I think that must now be taken in order that hereafter we may be in a position to decide rightly the important question which it is our business to decide.

"I would, therefore, reverse the conviction and sentence and direct as was done in Chinia's case, that the accused be tried in accordance with law notwithstanding his plea of guilty."

Mr. Hanmantrao B. Gumaste appeared for the appellant-accused.

The Government Pleader represented the Crown.

CAUSE LIST.

BOARD FOR THURSDAY, THE 1ST OF MARCH, 1917.

BEFORE THE HON. THE CHIEF JUSTICE AND THE HON. MR. JUSTICE HEATON.

In the Division Court No. 52.

APPEALS FOR HEARING AND FINAL DISPOSAL

55-16-691-15.—Daphtary F and D, K Venkatrao Sethupatty & anr v. Khimji Assur Virji and ors, Payne and Co., Part Heard.

56-16-337-16—Jam R and D, B G Horniman v Soorajmal B Mehta, Cragie B and Co.

57-16-349-16—Ard H D and Co, Abraham E J Abraham v Rai Bahadur Kalianmal Tillockchand, Mer K and Co.

43-16-779-16—Bhimji and Co, Nanji Govindji v. Sakarchand Khushalchand & ors, M B Chothia.

S C 59-16-382-16—Daph F and D, Sulleman Haji Essak & anr v. Khima Suttra and anr, Payne and Co.

62-16-554-15—Ard H D and Co, Raja Bahadur Motilal Shivlal v The Poona Cotton and Silk Mafg Co Ltd in Liquidation & anr, Ard H D and Co., Bhai K and G.

BEFORE THE HON MR. JUSTICE BEAMAN

In the Division Court No. 53.

SUITS FOR HEARING AND FINAL DISPOSAL.

LONG CAUSES.

444-16.—C P D'Cunha Balaram Bhasker & ors v. Ramcrishna Hurischandra & ors, Jehangir & S, fr. 24-2-17. To be mentioned, Part heard, 27-2-17.

1265-16.—Pandia & Co., Hormusji Nasserwanji Pestonjamas v. R M Vincent & Co., a firm, Jehangir M & S, In person, As Part heard 27-2-17.

FOR HEARING ON EXCEPTIONS TO COMR'S. REPORT.

LONG CAUSES.

597-15.—Captain & V, Velji Kara v. Dayal Khatau & ors, Madn K & R.

1287-16.—Ardeshir H J & Co., Girdharlal Jeysingh v. Messrs. Mahomed Haji Farid, Little & Co.

1310-16.—N C Dalal, Vithal Devji & Co. v. Rachhath Narayan Rangoolker, Payne & Co.

1313-16.—Payne & Co., Alibhai Mehta v. Tulockchand Mathraj a firm, Mulla & Mulla.

1306-16.—Mulla & Mulla, Bunmebai widow v, Ambaai & anr, Bajpi & Tha.

354-16.—Bhimji & Co., Ahmedoo Baleji Shamji v. Nagji Premchand & ors, Judah & S.

S C Ct. 370-1287-16.—Mulla & M, Ratanji Virpal & Co v. Haji Gulam Mahomed Azam, Payne & Co.

252-15.—Payne & Co., The Indian & Peninsular Steam Navigation Co., Ltd. v. Dragadra Krishna Roy Chowdhari, Log C W & Co.

1029-14.—Mavji H M & R, Hukumchand Shroopchand v. Govindram Chandram & ors, Captain & V.

418-16.—Captain & V, Muthambhoi v. Ahmed Saheb Shya Mulla, Judah S.

941-16.—Bhai K & G, The Pioneer Bank Ld. in Liquidation v. Kirpashing Patpatea, Dubash & Co.

BEFORE THE HON. MR. JUSTICE MACLEOD.

In the Division Court No. 43.

CHAMBER MATTERS FOR DISPOSAL (IN CHAMBERS.)

In Re Indian Co.'s Act VI of 1882 and in Re the Indian Specie Bank Ltd. (In Liquidation), In person, J Sanders Slater, Official Liquidator v. Bai Ambabai Ardhor Con. No. 96, Parties concerned, 22-3-17.

In Re Indian Co.'s Act VI of 1882 and in Re the Indian Specie Bank Ltd. (In Liquidation), In person, J Sanders Slater, Official Liquidator v. Bai Ambapurna Con. No. 139, Parties concerned, 22-3-17.

In Re Indian Co.'s Act VI of 1882 and in Re the Indian Specie Bank Ltd. (In Liquidation), In person, J Sanders Slater, Official Liquidator v. Cawasji B Avarbea Con. No. 624, Parties concerned, 22-3-17.

In Re Indian Co.'s Act VI of 1882 and in Re the Indian Specie Bank Ltd. (In Liquidation), In person, J Sanders Slater, Official Liquidator v. Shantaram G Kulkarni Con. No. 484, Parties concerned, 22-3-17.

TO SPEAK TO THE MINUTES OF DECREE (IN COURT.

1311-16.—Crawford B & Co., John William Linford v. Jehangir Hormusji Mody, Nanu H & Co.

FOR DECREE ABSOLUTE.

M J 190 16.—In person, Alfred B Cholet v. Lucy Alfred Cholet & anr.

SUITS FOR HEARING AND FINAL DISPOSAL.

LONG CAUSES

798-16.—Raghavaya N & Co., Gordhandas Bhimji & Co. a firm v. Bai Premabai widow and anr, Jamsetji R & D, Bhimji and Co., Part heard.

242-16.—Rustomji & G, Hussanali Musaji & anr v. Abdool Hoosein Karimji, Ragn G & Co.

1316-15.—Daph F & D, Ramrao Harichandra Mantri v. Bhagwandas Vithaldas Patel & ors, Ch M & K, Patel & Tz., Capt. & V, Ragn N & Co., Gir S M & H.

1105-14.—Amin & Desai, Raj Mani alias Premabai widow v. Chaganlal Bhaichand, Motichand & D.

734-12.—In person, The South India Mills Co., Ltd v. Raja Bahadur Sivlal Motilal, Merwanji & Co.

489-16.—Payne and Co., The Indian & Peninsula Steam Navigation Co., Ltd. v. Anandiprasad Dube, Matubhai J & M.

1200-16.—Kharas & Co., Noorbnai Gulam Hoosein Makata & anr v. M Allabux & Co. a firm, Payne & Co.

1065-16.—Mans H M & Co., Ibrahim Haji Essak v. Mehtebkhan Sherkhan, Dubash & Co.

633-16.—Smetham B & Co., Manilal Laxman Panda v. The Secretary of State for India in Council, E F Nicholson.

765-16.—Vachha & Co., Kaderbhai Fazalbhai a firm v. Khoja Jusabhai Vellybhai, Kanga & Sayani.

880-15.—Ard H D & Co., Bai Mambai widow & anr v. A W Campbell & anr, Wadia G & Co.

BEFORE THE HON. MR. JUSTICE MARTEN.

In the Division Court No. 40.

SUITS FOR HEARING AND FINAL DISPOSAL.

LONG CAUSES.

447-16—Payne and Co, Haji Mahomed Mehdi Malekatejar v C Vorhaid and Co a firm, Mulla and Mulla, Part heard.

19-16.—Malvi H M & R, Messrs. Harnandrai Fulchand a firm v. Jathmal & ors, Part heard, 23-2-17.

657-16—N C Dalal (for a pauper), Purshotamdas Madhowji v Javerchand Naranji and ors, Shroff D and D.

1037-16—S A Tyabji (for a pauper), Korba Errayya Sayanna v Korba Sayanna Errayya and ors, Purnanand and Co.

S C Ct 483/18307-16—Dikshit Dh and P, Bhagwanji Tulsidas v Furdoonji Jamaspji, Pandia and Co.

1223-15—Payne and Co, Niyamutullabai v Ahmedbhoy Shaik Kaderbhoy and ors, Payne and Co, Captain and V, Wadia G and Co, For postponement.

204-15—Surajmal and Co, Ratansey Maneckchand v Jethabhai Narsey and ors, Wadia G and Co, Mehta D and L.

1347-16—Surajmal and Co, Ratansey Maneckchand v Velji Natha and ors, Purnanand and Co, Wadia G and Co, Mehta D and L.

561-16—Payne and Co, Purshotam Mathuradas and Co a firm v Deokaran Nanji and ors, Captain and V, Pandia and Co, For postponement.

EX-ARMY MEN AND THE DEFENCE FORCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE CHRONICLE."

Sir,—Referring to the letter of "Looker On" in to-day's issue of the Chronicle, one wonders how long he has been "Looking On", and what kind of a "Soft Job" he is "Looking for." Perhaps some one will find him one, at the Gulf or elsewhere if he likes. It would be interesting to know if he is over age, and if he has done his bit.

Why single but ex-Army men specially. Other British Born Subjects should do their bit as well as the men who have already done it, many, more than once.

He must have been attending the restaurants, etc. to have noticed all the points he refers to.—Yours, etc.

X. Y.

BOMBAY POLICE COURTS.

DOCTOR'S WIFE CHARGED WITH THEFT.

SENTENCED TO A DAY'S SIMPLE IMPRISONMENT AND FINED RS. 200.

At the Mazagon Police Court, the Fourth Presidency Magistrate has disposed of a case in which Inspector Barnes charged one Lilabai and her husband Dr. Harram Hansraj, with the theft of ornaments of the value of Rs. 5,000, belonging to one Tulsidas Premji.

Mr. Payne with Mr. C. N. Kanuga appeared for the complainant, while Mr. S. D. Kapadia and Mr. K. F. Nariman defended the accused.

It was alleged that the complainant and the accused were neighbours and lived at Vadgadi and were on visiting terms. On the 10th February the complainant's wife happened to take out her ornaments from a cupboard in the presence of the first accused and replace them. The complainant and his wife went to a dinner in the evening. On their return half an hour later they found the lock removed from the door of their room and on entering the room, missed the ornaments. They suspected the first accused, and on the latter's room being searched, four of the missing ornaments were found concealed in some tins of grain. The accused were then arrested. The first admitted the offence but the second denied it, saying that when the ornaments were found in his house during the search he immediately reprimanded his wife and asked her to make a full confession. The Police havildar confirmed this statement.

The Magistrate held that there yas no evidence against the second accused and acquitted him. He convicted the first accused but taking into consideration her young age and her respectability and also the fact that she had been exposed to temptation and all the ornaments were recovered, the Magistrate sentenced her to a day's simple imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 200.

SHOP-HAMAL CONVICTED OF THEFT.

RECOVERED PROPERTY SENT TO LADY WILLINGDON WAR HOSPITAL.

At the Esplanade Police Court, yesterday, before the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Sub-Inspector Achrekar charged Waman Bhikajee, a hamal, with the theft, as a servant, of clothes valued at Rs. 222 from the shop of Messrs. Asquith and Lord. The thefts were committed during the last twelve months. The accused was convicted and sentenced to four months' rigorous imprisonment.

Vithoo Babaji, a barber, was charged with receiving during the last two months stolen pieces of cloth, valued at Rs. 190. This property also belonged to Messrs. Asquith and Lord. The accused was convicted and sentenced to a day's simple imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 60, in default, to five weeks' imprisonment.

Mr. R. K. Gillard asked on behalf of the firm that the clothes and pieces of cloth be sent to the Lady Willingdon War Hospital.

RASH AND NEGLIGENT DRIVING.

LORRY DRIVER FINED RS. 30.

At the Esplanade Police Court, yesterday, beore the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Inspector Fuller charged one Vinayak Sitaram with driving his motor lorry on Saturday on Frere Road so rashly and negligently as to endanger human life. The accused was convicted and sentenced to a fine of Rs. 30.

IMPORTING CONTRABAND MEAT.

ACCUSED FINED RS. 10.

At the Esplanade Police Court, yesterday, before the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Deputy Inspector Pryde charged. Dulia Abdul Rehman with importing from Kurla on Monday 40 lbs. of contraband meat unfit for human consumption. The accused was convicted and fined Rs. 10.

THEFT BY A RAILWAY COOLIE.

Before the Third Presidency Magistrate at the Esplanade Police Court Sub-Inspector Sorabji of the G. I. P. Railway Police charged Budulla Iliyabux, a railway coolie, with theft of a carpet worth Rs. 35 from a first class carriage. The accused was sentenced to one day's simple imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 20.

BOMBAY BANKING CO. CASE.

PROSECUTION TO PROCEED UPON MAIN CHARGE.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)

POONA, Feb. 27.

On the Court assembling to-day, for the trial of B. R. Hivargaonkar, and K. V. Gharpure, Poona agents of the Bombay Banking Company, and P. G. Vaidya, ex-officio Director of the same company, Khan Bahadur S. C. Davar, Public Prosecutor, presented an application to Mr. Percival, Sessions Judge, praying that the Court might reconsider its previous order restricting the prosecution to three items only.

The Public Prosecutor said, he did not wish to proceed on the charge of falsification, but would lead evidence in support of the main charge. If the prosecution were confined to the three items, they may be capable of some explanation, while the prosecution, whose evidence had been led in the lower court on 28 items, would be embarrassed at every step.

Mr. Gadgil, counsel for No. 2 and Mr. V. R. Gupte argued against the Public Prosecutor's plea.

After hearing both sides, the Judge passed orders permitting the Public Prosecutor to proceed on the main charge of breach of trust in respect of a gross sum of Rs. 46,000, embezzled in the course of one year from the Poona branch of the Bank.

Accused Nos. 1 and 2 are to be charged as principals and abettors of each other and No. 3 as abettor of Nos. 1 and 2.

A public meeting will be held at Calcutta Town Hall on Monday next, to consider the question of Self-Government for India and Indian recruitment for the Defence of India Force. Mr. Surendra Nath Banerjea will preside.

DROWNING FATALITIES IN A MILL TANK.

LOST WITH THE HELPING HAND.

Mr. A. R. King, Deputy Coroner, held an inquest yesterday, touching the death of two women named Kishnibai and Muktibai, aged 22 and 20 years, respectively. It appeared from the evidence that on Monday a number of labourers were engaged in removing grass from a tank in the Bomanji Petit Mill. The men had to go into the tank, pluck the grass and give it to the women, who were to remove it. The women were told not to go into the tank. The deceased, however, went into the water and began to pluck grass, when one of them appeared to be sinking. The other one held out her hand with a view to help her. As the ground sloped at that place they both began to sink. On seeing this, one of the men went to their assistance, but he also began to sink. He was helped out by another man. The deceased in the meantime disappeared in the water. Their bodies were subsequently recovered. A verdict of accidental death was recorded.

DROWNING FATALITY ON THE HOOGHLY.

22 MILL-HANDS DROWNED.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)

CALCUTTA, Feb. 27.

Considerable sensation prevailed at Serampur yesterday afternoon when a country boat belonging to India Jute Mills was sunk. It is stated that this boat was loaded with mill-workers consisting of boy shifters, women and men and they numbered roughly about 30. The boat which was being towed by a lunch across to Barrackpore capsized and those on board were thrown into the river. The manager of the mills hearing of the catastrophe hurried to the scene by a launch and threw out life buoys but to little purpose. Subsequently it is stated some eight were saved but no trace of the rest has yet been found. The police are on the look-out for bodies, but up to 10 o'clock this morning nothing had been found.

GRAND SHEREEF AND YOUNG TURKS.

WHY HE REVOLTED.

We take the following from "The Manchester Guardian":—Documentary evidence shows how the Grand Shereef of Mecca, now the King of Hedjaz, was driven by the Unionists into heading a revolt against the present governors of Turkey. Many months ago the leading *ulema* and professors of Irak, Basra, Bagdad, and Damascus published a manifesto to the Moslem world denouncing the Unionists' treatment of the Arabs and their attack on the three foundations of the faith—the Koran, the language, and the sacred shrines. A personal appeal to the Grand Shereef called on him to protect the House of Allah.

Discussing with an interviewer the mainfesto and the result which flowed from it, the Grand Shereef said:—

"While, on its receipt, I was in deep meditation as to what I should do in this grave crisis, which Islam was traversing, to please Allah and do my duty by the faith and its followers, I was surprised by what some of the "Unionists" thought best calculated to weaken my resolution, but which had the very contrary effect." He then handed over to his interviewer a letter written in Turkish to the following effect:—

To the Shereef of Mecca,—What we have lately learned has scarcely added to our knowledge of thy former acts against the Government. Thou hast known that the Government does not consider the Arabian Peninsula as anything more than one of its many provinces. Indeed, we do not deem its inhabitants entitled to any special consideration, or endowed with any qualities beyond those possessed by the meanest inhabitants of the waste deserts. We, therefore, do not wish that any demands be made for its reform, or that thou shouldst tell us any further about its fallen worth. We have not forgotten the behaviour that thou and thy inhabitants of the Peninsula have indulged in, from time to time, towards our valis; and if thou dost not relapse into quiet, and feel content with such reforms as the Government may think possible to grant, we shall let fall our might on thee and those around thee, and then thou shalt never rise up again.—For the Committee,

(Signed) KHALIL.,

His Highness finally said:—"Such is my position with these self-constituted leaders! Vainly have I tried to temporise and co-operate with them. I am not of those who seek power for its own sake, so that I could find some excuse for myself towards my conscience. The more I feigned complaisance the more these people thought that it was due to fear and cowardice, and now I feel weary of all this artifice. Even so, I shall try to give them a further period of grace, wherein they may yet change their policy; for the hearts of men are in the hands of Allah, if, however, this change should not come about, then I shall have no other alternative but to turn to Allah for guidance."

A crowded meeting of the citizens of Surat was held at the instance of the Surat District Association on Sunday in Naginchand Institute to protest against the contenance of indentured labour and to express satisfaction at the announcement made by H. E. the Viceroy that Indians will be enrolled in their own units for general military service in India for the duration of the war.

INDIAN DEFENCE FORCE BILL PASSED

SELECT COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

"EUROPEAN BRITISH SUBJECT."

DENOTATION WIDENED.

VIGOROUS PROTEST BY MR. SASTRI.

AMENDMENT NEGATIVED.

MR. SARMA'S AMENDMENT ON COMMISSIONS FOR INDIANS LOST

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)

DELHI, Feb. 28.

A meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council was held this morning, Mr. G. R. Lowndes, Vice-President, presiding. There was a fair attendance of visitors. Raja Rampal Singh (Oudh) and Mr. D. E. Wacha (Bombay) attended the meeting to-day. After interpellations his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief presented the report of the Select Committee on the Indian Defence Force Bill. The report was unanimous and following is the full text:—

SELECT COMMITTEES REPORT.

We, the undersigned members of the Select Committee to which the Bill to constitute an Indian Defence Force and for other purposes was referred, have considered the Bill and have now the honour to submit this our report with the Bill as amended by us annexed thereto.

(2) One of the great difficulties in connection with this Bill, is the definition of "European British Subject." The advantages of defining this phrase by reference to the definition in the Code of Criminal Procedure are that a definition is thereby obtained which has been a part of existing law for many years, and is in itself not unworkable from the point of view of the courts. These are no small advantages in enacting a new law of the kind we are considering. On the other hand, the disadvantages of the definition in question from both a practical and technical point of view are also obvious and were fully considered by us, especially in the light of the information that was supplied to us by Mr. Abbott of Jhansi, who was good enough to attend our Committee as an expert witness. We were more impressed by the practical difficulties than by any minor anomalies of a theoretical nature, which do not appear to us to be of great importance in the case of an urgent war measure. The main practical disadvantage is that a certain number of persons, whose services it is from the military point of view desirable to bring within the scope of the compulsory provisions of the Bill, would be outside those provisions if we left the bill as it was submitted to us.

(3) While, therefore, retaining the referential definition which is contained in the Bill we propose to bring within the scope of the definition two other classes of persons namely persons who, within the scope of the definition who other classes of persons namely persons who, within the prescribed period have asserted the status of a European British Subject by lodging form (a) with the Registration authority under the Registration Ordinance 1917, and persons who are members of a Volunteer corps constituted under the Indian Volunteers Act 1869. In the first case the person concerned has himself put forward a claim to the status which should not lightly be refused, and in the second case the justification for such a course is that a person who has undergone some form of military training at the expense of the State may well be required to aid that State at the time of need. By this amendment we consider that a considerable extension will be given to the ambit of the definition, and though the change might not commend itself if we were undertaking normal legislation in normal times, we think that at the present juncture it is justifiable.

We have made very little alteration in the other provisions of the bill. The inclusion of the existing volunteers in the definition of European British Subject renders it unnecessary to retain clause 7 (2) of the Bill, and we have accordingly deleted it. We have also amended clause 18 of the Bill so as to bring the Registration Ordinance, 1917, as continued by that Bill into harmony with the Bill as amended by us, and we have introduced one or two drafting improvements.

(5) We carefully considered the question whether some form of military training might not be arranged for in the case of Indian youths. The Indian members of the Committee attach great importance to this matter and desired to bring it prominently to the notice of the military authorities. They recognised, however, that the present Bill is before everything else a war measure, and that the exigencies of the present situation did not permit of any provision of this kind being given effect to at the present time, and therefore, did not press the matter further. Similarly, they would have also liked to have seen provision made for the admission of Indians to local military service, but they entirely accept the statement of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief that this is not at present within the range of practical politics.

(6) We desire to express our appreciation of the great assistance rendered to us by Mr. Abbott in so kindly attending the Committee.

(7) We think that the Bill has not been so altered as to require republication, and we recommend that it be passed as now amended.

DEBATE ON THE REPORT.

The rules of business having been suspended the Select Committee's report was taken into consideration.

Mr. Srinivasa Sastri (Madras) moved the following amendment:—That in clause 2 from the definition of European British Subject, the following words be omitted "and shall for the purposes of this Act be deemed to include every person who before the 3rd March 1917 has filled up, signed and lodged form (A) with the Registration authority under the Registration Ordinance 1917, and also every person who at the commencement of this Act is a member of a Corps of Volunteers constituted under the Indian Volunteers Act 1869."

The Hon. Mr. Sastri said that they were glad when the Defence Force Bill was introduced that Indians would, at any rate, be allowed to join the Army on the basis of the volunteer system, though Indians who joined the Defence Force would occupy a very inferior place to that of Europeans but the Select Committee had introduced a new element of discrimination upon which he was not prepared to put a harsh construction till His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief made a clear statement. The volunteer force, as it now existed, consisted of a large number of Eurasians, but there were of late years also many Indian Christians and Parsis who were joining the volunteer force, and of course, these also would come under the new definition of British subject. Continuing, he said, Indians were prepared to enlist under this Bill, though being under the Indian Army Act, 1911, their position would be very unfair. But they were prepared to do so, because they were under the impression that the present system would at least after the war be given the go-by. It was quite possible, said Mr. Sastri, that the present measure was only purely temporary in character, which would not be availed of when the whole question came up later for discussion. Here also he would be happy to have a clear statement. Referring to the two reasons given by the Select Committee for their widening the definition, he characterised the first to be a very small consideration indeed, and alluding to the second, he said that he protested that he was not given badly to the habit of looking beneath the surface of things. There would not be any justification for the Government if they continued to use their principles after the war. The roots of military policy were very deep indeed, and he, as a layman, would not be justified in probing into them. Anyhow he would await a full statement from the Commander-in-Chief.

SIR CHARLES MUNRO'S STATEMENT.

Sir Charles Munro in replying to Mr. Sastri, pointed out that the measure was perfectly clear. It was a war measure to meet certain contingency, and was not a permanent measure. He also pointed out that domiciled Anglo-Indians had been retained as they formed part of the Volunteer Corps and the Government were desirous to have full value of the Force.

Mr. Sarma in supporting the amendment, said the Bill as it had emerged from the Select Committee was likely to be embarrassing to the Government. It drew new distinctions where no distinction was drawn by the Legislature between his Majesty's European and Indian subjects. He prayed that there should be no such distinction. If conscription was needed, let it be for all.

Pandit Malaviya also supported this amendment, and while endorsing the Commander-in-Chief's plea for enhancing the fighting force in India, preferred to examine the matter in detail. He pointed out that formerly Europeans received commissions, but under the new clause domiciled Anglo-Indians would also be eligible. The neglect of Indians would actuate the difference and he asked the Commander-in-Chief to reconsider the question.

Mr. Dadabhoy did not share the apprehension of his colleagues that the extension of the definition had the effect of making an invidious distinction.

The commander-in-chief had lucidly explained that the scope of the definition had been enlarged with the object of including men who had already gone through military training, and volunteers and others who had put in their form under registration and whose services were idnispensable under the present circumstances. It was clear that there was no conferal of new status or privileges on any particular body of men, but the definition had been enlarged only for the purpose of this Act.

"DO NOT DISCRIMINATE."

Mr. Sastri in replying to the debate on his amendment, said he must confess that the Commander-in-Chief seemed to take them to be children. His Excellency had referred him (speaker) to the Select Committee's report which he had read once, twice, thrice. But he did not find any new light. He asked, was there no distrust towards the Indians? On the basis of the Volunteering Act, they, who were born in India, did not come under the Act because they were not Europeans nor of mixed descent, nor could they naturalise themselves like the Germans or the Austrians as they were born here. Did it show that the Indians were trusted? It was too late in the day to deny this. Mr. Sastri next referred to the Viceroy's speech in which his Excellency had spoken of the measure as not being a war measure, and in which he had sought their advice and co-operation and he was there to advise and co-operate, and his advice was "Do not discriminate." In conclusion he said: "Do not let the Bill go with the inscription affixed to it. 'To be trusted by us, you must either be of mixed descent or change your religion.

AMENDMENT FOR COMMISSIONS AND OFFICER'S TRAINING FOR INDIANS.

The amendment was put to the meeting and negatived. A division being called for, the amendment was lost by forty voting against and fifteen voting for it.

Mr. Sarma (Madras) moved the following amendment (i) That after clause 12 the following be inserted:—"12 (A) The Governor-General in Council shall, where possible, provide for the employment in the Indian Defence Force of Indians as officers holding commissions direct from His Majesty and for the training of Indians as officers in the military college at Quetta or any other institution suitable for the purpose. (B) Such officers shall be subject to the same conditions of service and enjoy the same privileges as the British officers under this Act."

He said that this amendment did not require a long preface. Almost every one that spoke on the last amendment expressed the hope that this reform would be conceded to the Indians, to their delight they had read the message of hope sent on this subject by the Viceroy to the Secretary of State. Referring to the amendment he said it was elastic and it did not carry with it any hard and fast rule. And he hoped there was nothing unreasonable in all he had asked. Even now there might be enough of trained Indians in the Regular Army to take up Commissions in the Defence Force in conjunction with the British officers.

But it might be urged that there was no use of this training as the war would end shortly. Hopeful as he was, he yet thought it would not be statesmanlike to allow ourselves to be dominated by this hopefulness. Granting even this, he yet thought demands, even during the short time, might become too great to be met by the Europeans' resources. As it was, young men were being drawn away from their schools in England, and sent to the Army, and why not the same opportunity be given to Indians? Their intelligence as that of the Europeans had never been doubted. For centuries, Indians had been following a military career, and even now their martial spirit had not cooled down, and he asked why not use it now. Indians were loyal, courageous, brave and intelligent, and why could they not be trusted in this moment of supreme crisis.

The Hon. Mr. K. V. Rangaswami Iyengar (Madras) in supporting the amendment, said that he did not see how the present measure would be a success, if the Indians were not admitted to the level of equality with the Europeans. Indians were as clever, brave, hardy and resourceful as any European was, and he did not see why they should be denied this privilege. He protested against the usual method of announcing important decisions affecting India in England, prior to their being announced here, as was the case in this.

Rai Sita Nath Roy supported the amendment because it was his great desire that the Bill should be effective. The Bill, as it was framed, would damp the enthusiasm of the educated Indians, who would have to incur great sacrifices in joining the Indian Defence Force.

SIR CHARLES MONRO'S REPLY.

The Commander-in-Chief said, the mover of the amendment was introducing a wide-spreading change into what he already assured, was a purely temporary measure, and before there had been any opportunity of consulting all the authorities which it was necessary to consult. Before introducing such a wide change, his Excellency said, he could not follow the Hon. Member into all the historical reviews and other matters which he had introduced into the remarks with which he had supported his amendment, and he could not accept the amendment.

Mr. Sarma replying, complained that the Commander-in-Chief had evaded the point at issue. The speaker pointed out that he was a volunteer for two years, until he was told that he could no longer remain one. He said that the Commander-in-Chief had rebuked him for discussing matters of which he was ignorant. He conceded that his Excellency was an expert in military matters, but sometimes imagination was more useful than expertness or mannerisms.

The amendment was put and lost.

SAME OPPORTUNITY FOR INDIANS.

The Hon. Pandit Malaviya moved the following amendments:—That between clauses 12 and 13 the following clause be inserted:—12 (A) Any male Indian British subject who on the 1st day of February, 1917, was ordinarily resident in British India or thereafter becomes so resident, and has attained the age of sixteen years, but has not attained the age of eighteen years, who may satisfy the prescribed conditions, and within six months from the commencement of this Act offers himself for enrolment for local military service, may be enrolled accordingly in the prescribed manner. (B) Every person so enrolled, shall probably be liable to such military training as may be provided for by regulations made under this Act, and shall not be liable to any other form of military service.

He said that the Select Committee's report showed that opinions expressed in the Council, were not lost altogether on the Government but arguments were not sufficient, and it was not right that they should take shelter under the bogey of war. Provision was made in the case of Europeans, but he asked why the same opportunities were not thrown open to Indians.

Continuing he said that the question should not be and ought not to be shelved. He referred to the praise of his Majesty regarding Indian loyalty. He thought new lines of policy should be taken. Ever since the British supremacy, this was the first time when it was found necessary to have an Indian Defence Force, and he and his friends were as keen as his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief to serve the Army, hence their present anxiety. Here he reminded the Government that they were surrounded by people who were ruled by a law of conscription. Every civilised country had come to the conclusion that conscription should be resorted to, if it wanted to keep up its dignity. In Japan, this had led to very important results, and it was their desire in India that they should be able to develop their military strength to the the same extent as they did in Japan. No one could foresee the future. To meet all contingencies his amendment should be adopted in the interests of England and India. They would do well to expend any amount of money in extending the opportunities for military service to Indian youth.

Mr. Safi supported the amendment moved by Pandit Malaviya, and urged that the plea, that it was a war measure, should not cover all arguments. He emphasised that some arrangements be made for the military training of Indian youths.

Dr. Sapru said it seemed to him that what was absolutely necessary was that they must create a proper military atmosphere for India's youth. they must provide avenues not only for those Indians who were prepared to carry arms now, but they should also provide for their successors. It had been often said that there must be an equality of position and equality of opportunities between Indians and Europeans. In conclusion, he urged that they should not give room for the statement that they had thrown cold water on the ardour of India's youth.

Mr. B. N. Basu supported the motion and said he brought the matter before the Select Committee. Not being a military man he would not take it as a military necessity, but as a concession. He pointed out that men above eighteen were eligible and younger men should be trained as their successors, providing larger reserve where from to draw new recruits. It was not a question of power or privilege for him, but that of duty.

At this stage the Vice-President proceeded to place the amendment before the Council.

Mr. Basu rose and asked whether the Commander-in-Chief would not give his views.

The Vice-President:—His Excellency had his chance.

The motion was put to vote and negatived by 37 voting against, and 22 voting for it.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S ASSURANCE.

The Commander-in-Chief, in concluding the discussion, thanked the members for their valuable assistance and suggestions. He spoke of the anxieties which faced the military authorities, and added that all the remarks which had been made in the Council would be treasured up, and the eminently temperate suggestions which had been put forward would be fully and sympathetically considered in the future when the situation was quieter and more settled. He moved that the Bill as amended be passed.

Pandit Malaviya said that he was happy to hear those sympathetic remarks of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, and he assured the Government that the non-officials had for their sole object the aim of helping the Government in their work. He then urged the importance of the Government taking some non-official members into confidence in the work of drawing up any scheme, and said that that would be the best way of attaining the objects. Continuing, he said that all amendments had for their object the obliteration of all distinctions between Europeans and Indians. It was their most ardent desire that both they (Europeans) and we (Indians) should play the game as the members of an honourable Empire.

Mr. B. N. Basu said the members unreservedly placed themselves in the hands of the Government and they had unhesitatingly accepted what the Government had thought best to do under the present circumstances. They would strain every nerve to bring the war to a speedy and victorious end.

Mr. Shafi gave the assurance to Government that the measure would be loyally spported in the Punjab.

Mr. Sastri said his advice during the earlier part of the day was more frank than personal, but on the present occasion he would follow his other friends and not obstruct the passage of the bill. To some it might seem that they had said things which needed no repetition, but there were men outside this Council to whose ears their words had not reached hitherto.

Mr. Dadabhoy strongly supported the motion.

Mr. Wardlaw Milne in supporting, hoped the interests of trade would be properly safeguarded.

Colonel Alpin said no province would welcome it more than Burma, and said that it was the Rangoon Chamber of Commerce that first outlined a scheme for compulsory military service for Europeans. As for Burmans they were among the first who offered themselves for services in the war. Though they could not be availed of at first, they had since been availed of and the Burmans were covering themselves with glory in actual warfare. He then spoke of the value of volunteers and said they would be an important part of the new army.

Mr. Walsh (Behar) on behalf of the Behar Light Horse, heartily supported the motion.

BILL PASSED INTO LAW.

The motion was put before the meeting and agreed to. The Indian Defence Force Bill was passed into law and the Council adjourned for lunch.

Mr. Wardlaw-Milne said:

The Bills of Exchange Act Amendment Bill, the Bill which I now ask the permission of the Council to introduce, is of a simple character, being an amendment of the Indian Bills of Exchange Act, 1916, in one particular only. I do not propose to trouble the Council with a full statement of the circumstances which led to the introduction of the Act last year, but in order that I may make the object of this amending Bill clear, it is desirable that I should shortly refer to the provisions of the Act as passed by this Council last September. That Act followed the lines of the English Bills of Exchange Act. 1914, in excusing on the part of the holders, delay in the presentment of bills of exchange payable outside British India, when that delay was caused by circumstances arising from the present war, and the Government of India, before bringing the Bill of last September before this Council fully consulted the

(Continued on pagt 8).

BOMBAY RACING SEASON.

12TH EXTRA MEETING.

(Thursday 8th March 1917.)

Entries closed at 4 p.m. Wednesday 28th February, 1917.

A CONSOLATION PLATE.—Distance 1¼ miles.
Mr. D. B. Captain's bl e m Sugar Loaf aged.
Mr. Wilton Bartleet's ch e g Bed-time 6 years.
Mr. Wilton Bartleet's ch n am m Santa Barabara 6 years.
Mr. R. R. S.'s ch e h Criton aged.
Miss H. F. Petit's b e g Screamer 6 years.
Mr. T. M. Thaddeus' b e g Seven Bridge 5 years.
General Nawabzada Obaidulla Khan's br e h Spenser aged.
Mr. T. Gordhandas" b e m Madrina aged.
H. H. Maharaja of Gwalior's ch e m Manilla aged.
Mr. M. Goculdass' b e g Gibbyrish 5 years.
Mr. M. Goculdass' br e g Gipsy's Advice 14-2, aged.
Aga Coochick Shah's ch e m Partial Eclipse, 6 years.
THE MINTO PLATE.—Distance 5 furlongs. (Straight.)
Mr. D. Pallonji's b e g Penny Pie 5 years.
Mr. A. Nanji's ch e h Bedspread 5 years.
Mr. J. L. Ainsworth's b e m Margreen 5 years.
The Chief of Mahisal's bl e h Black Walnut 6 years.
Mr. M. Goculdass' ch e m Cicatrix 4 years.
Messrs. F. M. Garda and M. Goculdass' b e m Lumination aged.
Mr. J. S. Love's b e g Verres 4 years.
Mr. Downes' br e h Billy Bawn 5 years.
Messrs. Hastings and Downes' ch e g Tollendal 6 years.
General Nawabzada Obaidulla Khan's b e m Premiere 5 years.
Mr. Hammond's b or br e h Kenilworth 4 years.
Messrs. J. K. Irani and George's Kings Head 6 years.
Mr. Pitt's bl e h Triple Alliance aged.
Mr. P. Stewarts' ch e g Cheriton 5 years.
Aga Coochick Shah's b e g Binfield Grove 6 years.
Mr. M. Goculdass' br e g Gilpsey's Advice 14-2 aged.
Messrs. F. M. Garda and M. Goculdass' b e h Fire Finch aged.
Mr. E. L. F. De Soysa's b e g County Cricket 4 years.
THE HAMADAN PLATE.—Distance about 6 furlongs.
Mr. Heman's b a h Machine Gun 6 years.
Mr. Heman's g a h St. Leger 14-0 4 years.
Mr. Herbert's g a h Tit Bits 13-3½ 3 years.
Mr. A. S. Oomer's g a h Prince Albert 14-0, aged.
Messrs. A. S. Oomer and A. Nanji's g a h Fusilier 6 years.
Messrs. A. S. Oomer and A. Nanji's g a h Full House 6 years.
Mr. A. Nanji's g a h Royal Taj 13-3½ 6 years
Mr. A. Nanji's b a h Victoria Cross 13-3½ 3 years.
H. H. Maharaja of Rajpipla's g a h Lucky Bag 4 years.
Mr. R. R. S.'s b a h Pacific 4 years.
Mr. R. R. S's b a h Charing Cross 4 years.
Messrs. M. Goculdass and P. Mathradass' b a h Pose Hill 3 years.
Mr. Fahad bin Saif's g a h Sir Martin 13-3½ aged.
Mr. Robert's g a h State Express 14-0, 5 years.
Messrs. H. Khatoon and E. Hazamy's ch a h Brave Boy 13-3, 6 years.
General Nawabzada Obaidulla Khan's ch a h Hamid Pasha 5 years.
General Nawabzada Obaidulla Khan's g a h California 13-3½ 3 years
General Nawabzada Obaidulla Khan's g a h Sunflower 2 years.
Mr. Heath's br a h Innocence 13-3½ 4 years.
Mr. Heath's g a h Arabian King 14-0 6 years.
Mr. Heath's b a h Vanguard 14-0 6 years.
Mr. Hammond's g a h Devildom 4 years.
Mr. George's g a h Bhookhri 13-3½ 6 years.
Nawab Najafali Khan's b a h Union Jack, 13-3 2 years.
Mr. C. N. Wadia's ch a h Hajee Baba 14-0, 4 years.
Mr. Mowlud Haji Ali's g a h Kingsway 13-2½ 4 years.
Mr. Mowlud Haji Ali's g a h High Class 13-3½ 4 years.
Mr. Syed Rashid's b a h Medallion 13-3½ 4 years.
Mr. S. A. Wahed's ch a h Autocrat 6 years.
Mr. Yusuff Haroon's g a h Nevada 13-2½ 4 years.
Mr. Nasir Rajmahomed's ch a h Port Arthur 13-3½ 3 years
Mr. Rajmahomed Vazir's g a h Manitoba 13-2½ 3 years.
Mr. H. W. Dixon's g a h Bill Bailey 13-2½ 3 years.
Mr. Sayeed Daya's ch a h Contest 14-0 4 years.
Mr. Sayeed Daya's g a h Short Cut 2 years.
Mr. Shalal bin Hatab's ch a h Garland 14-0 4 years.
Mr. Selim bin Mubarak's g a h Edward 5 years.
Mr. Yusuff Sheriff's b a h Argonaut 13-2½ 4 years.
Mr. A. R. Dakeel's ch a h Equator 14-0 aged.
Mr. Yussuff Sheriff's b a h Light Weight 13-2½ aged.
Mr. Menesche Shakin's ch a h Navarins 13-3½ 4 years.
Mr. Menesche Shakin's g a h Britannia 14-0 3 years.
Mr. Menesche Shakin's bl a h Harrington 13-3½ 3 years.
Mr. Menesche Shakin's b a h Financier 13-3½ 3 years.
Messrs. D .S. Mehta and Menesche Shakin's g a h Shabash 13-3½ 2 years.
Mr. S. R. A. Wahab's g a h Nestor 3 years.
Messrs. S. R. A. Wahab and F. Khaderi's g a h Florida 13-3½ 3 years.
Messrs. Hasan Zuheir and M. Jeweser's g a h Rayis 13-3½ 6 years.
Mr. Abdul Bakhi Zuheir's ch a h Zuheir 4 years.
Mr. Abdul Bakhi Zuheir's g a h Lauchester 13 3½ 5 years.
Mr. Ahmed Khalevi's g a h Sunlight 13-3½ 3 years.
Mr. Valijee Moosajee's ch a h Adil 13-2½ 4 year.
Mr. Hassoon Alwau's g a h Chatham 13-3½ 4 years.
Mr. Hassoon Alwau's ch a h Elysia 13-3½ 2 years.
Mr. Abdoola Mana's b a h The Ally 13-3½ 6 years.
Mr. Abdoola Mana's b a h Best Friend 6 years.
Mr. Ebrahim Mana's ch a h Picture 13-2½ 4 years.
Mr. Diamond's g a h White Flag 13-2½ 3 years.
Mr. K. A. Hilaly's g a h Salamat 13-2½ 3 years.
THE HAYDOCK PARK PLATE.—Distance 1½ miles.
Mr. Wilton Bartleet's ch e g Sungrebe 5 years.
Mr. Wilton Bartleet's b e m Falcon Queen late Ma Honey 6 years.
Mr. A. S. Oomer's ch e g Athleto aged.
Mr. A. Nanjee's br e g Vardar 5 years.
Mr. J. L. Ainsworth's b e m Ute aged.
Mr. Kelso's b e h Wise Thrush 4 years.
Mr. M. Goculdass' br e m Megale 5 years.
Genl. Nawabzada Obaidulla Khan's b e m Final Proof 5 years.
Mr. S. A. Wahed's b e h Dorian 5 years.
Mr. S. A. Wahed's b e g Mossy 6 years.
Mr. T. Tejpal's b e m Adelaide II aged.
Captain Cairnes and Mr. S. A. Sanford's b e m Kit Grey Leg aged.
Mr. E. L. F. De Soysa's br aus g Strathroyale aged.
Mr. E. L. F. De Soysa's br e g Minimum 4 years.
Mr. J. Gove's br ans g Dumfries aged.
THE VIHAR PLATE.—Distance about 6 furlongs.
Mr. Dara Cowasjee's g a h Powerful 6 years.
Mr. Dara Cawasjee's ch a h Orfental Balm 6 years.
Mr. Frank's g a g Mount Pleasant 13-3½ 5 years.
Mr. Yussuff Haroon's g a h Raven 3 years.
Mr Yussuff Haroon's b a h Najdi. 13-3½ aged.
Mr. A. Nanjee's g a h Acetine 14-0 5 years.
Mr. A. Nanjee's Haroon's g a h Ace of Dimonds 13-3½ 5 years.
Mr. Downes' ch a h Verdun 13-3 aged.
The Chief of Mhaisal's g a h Active 4 years.
Mr. Nasar Abdoola's ch a h Major late Jemadar 13-3½ aged.
Mr. Nasar Abdoola's ch a h Flying Machine 14-0 aged
Mr. J. Bomanjee's ch a h Tawakul 14-0 aged.
Mr. H. Cassumbhoy's ch a h Shatra 13-3½ 5 years.
Mr. Saleh Moosa's g a h Justice 13-2½ 5 years.
Genl. Nawabzada Obaidulla Khan's ch a h Marmora 14-0 6 years.
Mr. Heath's g a h Grey Hawk 3 years.
Mr. Heath's ch a h Seabonsed 14-0 aged.
Mr. P. Stewart's g a h Fairy Gold 14-0 4 years.
Nawabzada Najafali Khan's ch a h Khan Bahadur 4 years.
Mr. Mowlud Haji Ali's ch a h Shimran aged.
Mr. Mowlud Haji Ali's ch a h Nimrod 13-3½ 5 years.
Mr. Mowlud Haji Ali's g a h Morning Light 6 years.
Mr. Syed Rashid's g a h Archer 13-3½ aged.
Messrs. S. A. Wahed and Aga Mirza Ahmed's g a h Mint Master 3 years.
Miss H. F. Petit's g a h Rosy Morn 13-3 aged.
Mr. Rajmahomed Vazir's ch a h Panama aged.
Mr. Rajmahomed Vazir's g a h Ormuz 13-3 5 years.
Mr. Abdul Karim Essa's g a h Dartmoor 13-3 3 years.
Mr. T. Bateman's g a h Challenger 6 years.
Captains Bernard and Hutton's b a h Thorium 6 years.
Mr. A. R. Dakeel's b a h Salim 13-2½ 5 years.
Mr. Nasim Saleh's g a h Good Morning 13-2½ 6 years.
Mr. N. Jehangir's g a h Nassau 5 years.
Messrs. A. A. Mahomed and Zaid bin Mahomed's g a h Cox 3 years.
Mr. Amar's ch a h Bikaneer 4 years.
Mr. D. S. Mehta's b a h Faleh Khan 14-0 aged.
Messrs. D. S. Mehta and H. B. Bharucha's g a h Old China 13-2½ aged.
Mr. Sayeed Daya's b a h Czar 13-3½ 5 years.
Mr. Valijee Moosajee's b a h Arabian Consul 13-2 aged.
Mr. H. R. Thanawalla's b a h Bhayram 13-3½ 3 years.
Mr. Aspandiar Ardesher's bl a h Bayonet 13-3½ 4 years.
Mr. Diamond's b a h Toledo 13-3 4 years.
THE TROMBAY PLATE.—Distance 1½ miles.
Mr. K. Cassumbhoy's g a h Tawdry 13-3½ 6 years.
Mr. A. S. Oomer's b a h Burg 13-2½ aged.
Mr. A. S. Oomer's b a h Malacca 5 years.
Mr. A. S. Oomer's g a h Kharaman 14-0 aged.
Mr. A. Nanjee's g a h Ace of Royals 5 years.
Mr. A. Nanjee's g a h Hurchan 14-0 aged.
Messrs. M. Goculdass and P. Mathradass' g a h Ruby Mine 5 years.
Mr. Ali bin Talib's w a h White Silk 6 years.
Mr. Ali bin Talib's ch a h Money Gold aged.
Mr. Ali bin Talib's b a h Mooltan 6 years.
Genrl. Nawabzada Obaidulla Khan's g a h Malayeb 13-1½ aged.
Genl. Nawabzada Obaidulla Khan's ch a h Purity aged.
Mr. Heath's b a h Collingwood 4 years.
Mr. P. Stewart's g a h Kainmers 5 years.
Mr. Roosi's g a h Excelsior aged.
Nawab Najafali Khan's b a h Sir Knight 14-0 aged.
Mr. S. A. Wahed's bl a h Black Hussar 5 years.
Mr. Nasim Saleh's bl a b Black Ivory 5 years.
Mr. E. L. F. De Soysa's b a h Lord Roseberry 13-3½ aged.

LAWN TENNIS.

WESTERN INDIA CHAMPIONSHIPS.

The following were the results of matches played on Wednesday:—
Fyzee beat Sunder Rao 6—2, 6—2.
England and Fisher beat Chief of Manavadar and Ranga Rao 6—1, 6—1.
Lady Tata and Ranga Rao beat Mrs. Portlock and Reid 7—5, 6—4.
Mrs. Jukes and Jukes beat Mrs. Blunt and Barraclough 6—0, 6—2.

SEMI FINAL.

The following matches will be played on 1st March, 1917:—
Lady Tata and Ranga Rao v. Mrs. England and England at 5-30 p.m.

ON FRIDAY 2ND MARCH, 1917.

Final.—Singles at 4-30 p.m.
Final.—Mixed Doubles at 5-30 p.m.

ON SATURDAY, 3RD MARCH, 1917.

Fyzee and Chinmulgund v. England and Fisher.
The following matches will be played on to-day:—

QUEEN'S ROAD COURTS.

SINGLE—SEMI-FINAL.

Court No. 1, Fyzee v. Sunder Rao at 4-45 p.m.

DOUBLES—SEMI-FINAL.

Court No. 2, England and Fisher v. Chief of Manavadar and Ranga Rao at 5 p.m.

MIXED DOUBLES.

Court No. 1, Mrs. Blunt and Barraclough v. Mrs. Jukes and Jukes at 5-30.
Court No. 2, Mrs. Portlock and Reid v. Lady Tata and Ranga Rao at 5-45 p.m.
The following are the results of the matches played yesterday:—
Ranga Rao beat England 6—4, 1—6, 6—1.
Fyzee and Chinmulgund beat Bun and Gunter 6—4, 6—3.
Mrs. Blunt and Barraclough beat Mrs. Row and Jackson 4—6, 6—4, 6—2.

TENNIS AT BANDRA.

T. D. PILLAY WINS THE WASSOODEW SHIELD.

The Singles Tennis Tournament of the above Club came to a close on Sunday last resulting in an easy victory for T. D. Pillay who wins the "Y. B. Wassoodew Shield." The play exhibited in the semi-finals between Pillai and D'Monte was interesting but that in the final turned out to be an easy canter for the winner.. Subjoined are the details of the play:—

RESULTS AT A GLANCE.

FIRST ROUND.

1 Dr. Dias beat D. Ferreira 6—1, 6—2.
2. F. D'Souza beat D'Mello 7—5, 7—5.
3. T. D. Pillay beat Dr. Miss DeJon 6—0, 6—3.

SECOND ROUND.

4. S. Ferreira beat J. Ferreira, 6—3, 6—7.
5. P. A. Dias beat F. D'Souza, 7—5, 7—5.
6 T. D. Pillay beat T DeMonte, 6—0, 6—2.
7 A. DeMonte beat D. D. Marker, 8—6, 2—6, 6—4.

SEMI-FINAL.

8 S. Ferreira beat P. A. Dias, 6—2, 9—7.
9 T. D. Pillay beat A. DeMonte, 6—4, 3—6, 6—3.

FINAL.

10 T. D. Pillay beat S. Ferreira, 6—0, 6—1.

Dr. A. Suhruwardy, Barrister, has been returned to the Bengal Legislative Council in place of Mr. Zahid Suhruwardy, resigned.

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THE BOMBAY CHRONICLE.

Thursday, March 1, 1917.

CEYLON LABOUR SCANDAL.

We wonder how long it will be before the authorities awake to the need of dealing with all the rampant iniquity that is summed up in the popular phrase "Labour conditions in Ceylon." And it is permissible to enquire how the Ceylon Government can permit the continuation of a situation which, were its bare details put before any meeting or assembly of British men and women in Great Britain, would evoke execration. In this matter of the Ceylon atrocities there is a three-sided responsibility. There is first, as we have suggested, the immediate responsibility of the Government of Ceylon; then there is the Secretary of State for the Colonies who is ultimately responsible for the administration of Ceylon, and who virtually appoints or removes the Governor of Ceylon; and, third, there is the very direct responsibility, from the Indian point of view, of the Government of India, in so far as the victims of Ceylon slavery are Indians, and therefore entitled to the protection of their Government. So far as the Ceylon Government are concerned, we feel sure that as soon as the preoccupations of war give place to a more normal atmosphere, means will be found to bring home to them their responsibility. Meanwhile we have no hesitation in saying that by their tacit tolerance of what is going on in the estates from day to day, the Ceylon executive have committed themselves to as un-British a course of action as it is possible to imagine. While the Colonial Secretary happens at the present moment to be immune, we presume, from such enquiry and criticism as would ordinarily be brought to bear upon him, it must none the less be a matter for anxious enquiry that he has apparently not bestirred himself at all even after the recent scathing exposures of slave-driving in a part of the British Empire which is under his jurisdiction and for whose proper government he is responsible to the British Parliament and people. Would he be prepared to avow or defend from his place in the House the Labour conditions in Ceylon as we know them to be? There can be only one answer to that question, and we will give Mr Walter Long the benefit of the doubt by assuming that his seeming apathy is due to ignorance rather than conviction. To remove all possibility of doubt in the matter, steps should be taken to bring the facts of the situation in Ceylon to his direct cognisance. Then there is the Government of India, and we feel sure that they could do a great deal to check the abomination that is going on by direct remonstrance with the Ceylon Government. Lord Hardinge set the precedent of direct communication. And, of course, as a radical cure for evils of which the victims are almost wholly Indians, and in regard to which their responsibility is obvious, they could initiate suitable legislation in the Indian Legislative Council. The primary concern of the Government of India should be the protection of Indians against rapacious and brutal exploiters, and we strongly feel that, whatever may be done or not done, by the Ceylon Government or the Colonial Office, it is fully time that the Government of India took some decisive action in this matter.

Let us put before them, and before the public, once again, a picture of every-day happenings in Ceylon respecting the systematic maltreatment of coolies with or without the nominal sanction of the law. Here are the facts of a few recent cases which we have been at some pains to obtain at firsthand from trustworthy sources.

(1) One Ramasamy of,—Estate was charged by the Superintendent of the Estate with quitting service without leave or reasonable cause before the Police Magistrate of Ratnapura. The accused admitted the charge but stated that he quitted the Estate on reasonable grounds in that he and his wife Ponnamma were assaulted by the Kangany at the instigation of the Superintendent when they went to the Superintendent to apply for a "Tundu" to enable them to pay their alleged debt to this Estate and go to some other estate more convenient to them. His wife Ponnamma was further tied to a tree by her tuft of hair and hands and assaulted and disgraced and they were placed under guards to prevent them from going out and making complaint to the authorities. After some-time this accused and his wife on some pretext or other came out only to place their grievances, and for this a warrant was taken out and the man arrested in the very court premises where he had come to make his complaint. Eventually he was able to obtain release on bail and on the date of hearing he went along with his counsel and his witnesses a distance of 30 miles to the place of trial. The complainant i.e. the Superintendent of the Estate did not come to court, but sent his two assistants who swore away from the witness box that the accused quitted the estate without any reasonable cause. The accused also gave evidence as well as his two wives, the only available witnesses, as no others would give evidence for him through fear of the Superintendent and the Kangany, etc. The Police Magistrate of Ratnapura disbelieved the evidence of the accused and his witnesses totally and convicted the accused and sentenced him to one month's rigorous imprisonment. An appeal against this order was to the Supreme Court at considerable expense and trouble by a party who interested himself in the matter and the Supreme Court also dismissed the appeal. In the appeal petition it was urged that the complainant and his witnesses who are his subordinates paid by him should not have been believed in preference to the accused and his two wives, and that in any case the sentence of one month's rigorous imprisonment was too severe and that a reasonable fine would have met the ends of justice. The man and his two wives stated that they were assaulted and tied and that they came away to court to make a complaint and as a matter of fact the accused was arrested within the precincts of the court. The accused and his witnesses said in open court that they were assaulted and Ponnamma one of the accused's wives was tied to a rubber tree when they went to the Superintendent to apply for a "Tundu." This is not unusual in estates and those who know the custom prevailing in estates know it, and they also know that every day the complaint of estate coolies is that they are assaulted when they go and apply for a "Tundu" as the Superintendents of Estates do not like to lose their coolies by issuing "Tundus." In this case the result was that when the coolies felt dissatisfied with the estates and went to the superintendents to get a "Tundu" to enable them to pay their debt and go to another estate, they were assaulted. When they went to complain about their assault the man was arrested and locked up, and finally prosecuted and sentenced to one month's rigorous imprisonment by the Police Magistrate and this was affirmed in appeal. For an alleged technical breach of a civil contract rendered penal by a wretched ordinance the man suffered one month's rigorous imprisonment.

(2) One Velu of the same Estate, his wife Sellam, one Govindasamy and his mother Sengamma gave a month's notice through a lawyer expressing their intention to quit service according to law. As soon as the Superintendent received the notices, these coolies who were all rubber tappers were stopped from that work and made to work in cutting drains, etc., with mammoties and other tools. This however may be passed over as within legal limits; although, under the circumstances it savours of intimidation. But apparently this was not enough. All the coolies had their usual weekly advance of rice stopped, without which in the estates they could get nothing to eat. After this they were assaulted and some neighbours of these coolies who lent a little of their rice when they saw them starving were threatened with prosecution. When Velu could not bear the starvation of himself and his people he went miles away to the market and fell at the feet of a sympathetic Indian trader and got some rice and sundries and brought them to the estate. The next morning they kept everything inside the lines, locked the door and went for work as they were ordered to go and through fear that they would be prosecuted for failing to work. On their return they found the door broken, the house entered and all their rice and sundries stolen. Velu thereupon left, walking about 20 miles from the estate in a semi-starved condition. He found a lawyer to complain to. He sent two petitions, one to the Government Agent, Ratnapura and the other to the Police Magistrate Ratnapura, and his lawyer then advised him to go back to the estate pending the expiration of the notice period. This is what the planters call "free labour" under which a cooly can easily quit service by giving a month's notice!

(3) The Assistant Superintendent of estate charged one *Omàm*, male, aged about 60 with failing and neglecting to work on 22-2-17 without leave or reasonable cause. It was further alleged that he was seen drawing water for a boutaque keeper in the town. The accused in defence stated that he was an old man and that his legs and hands were all aching as he was suffering from Rheumatic pains, etc. He further admitted that when he went to the town to buy some coriander and pepper for boiling and drinking he was short of money and the bouteque-keeper wanted a bucket of water for the balance due to him and so he (the accused) was forced to draw the water in order to buy the required things. He further told the court that the Assistant Superintendent gave him several blows on his head, and nose and that he profusely bled and also showed to court a cloth he was wearing with blood stains. When asked for his plea of guilty or not guilty he said "as I have been brought to court I am guilty" (a common statement usually made in court by all the coolies who run away, with the idea that if they are brought to court rightly or wrongly they must be guilty.) He was however convicted and sentenced to a week's rigorous imprisonment. The charge was before the Police Magistrate of Avisawella on the 23-2-17. The accused was undefended and Mr. Marshall Proctor, J.P., V.P.M., appeared for the complainant. The complainant had no business to bring the accused to court without a summons or warrant and may be regarded as having been guilty of wrongful restraint or using criminal force, from a strictly legal point of view. Again the court should have enquired into the more serious charge of assault preferred by the old cooly, against the Assistant Superintendent, particularly when he showed the blood stains to the court. This was not done.

(4) The Superintendent of——Estate charged before the Police Magistrate of Avisawella one Veeramalai, male, age about 25, with failing and neglecting to work without leave or reasonable cause from 16-21-2-17. The accused admitted the charge and stated in defence that he is alone by himself in the estate and that the Superintendent gave him a "Tundu" to enable him to pay the money and go elsewhere and he went with the "Tundu" to find out the money. This was not denied by the complainant and notwithstanding this he was convicted and sentenced to two weeks' rigorous imprisonment. This was the best defence possible, it may be noted as the Supreme Court has held that a person who is given a "Tundu" has leave to go and find out the money.

To these we may add another cas which is reported by the "Hindu."

Mr. J. C. L. Brereton, Superintendent of Penrith group Puwakpitiya charged one Suppen before the Acting Magistrate of Aviswella with failing to attend muster and work from 6 a.m., to 4 p.m., on the 16th and 17th January 1917. The accused admitted that he did not work and stated in justification that he was very ill and that he would have gladly worked for his own sake at least, if he was well and fit to work. No medical evidence was called and the accused was also not examined by a medical man. The superintendent denied that the accused was ill. The Acting Magistrate, Mr. Driberg, Crown Proctor said that he was convicting the accused on his own statement and sentenced him to a month's rigorous imprisonment.

The temper and methods prevailing in the estates, as shown by these typical cases, had perhaps better not be characterized. But what is one to say of the judicial spirit of the courts which pass such sentences? Perhaps no greater proof of the general demoralization that prevails in the neighbourhood of the estates could be found than in this shameful debasing of the administration of law. Something has got to be done. The remedy is to stop emigration altogether, and we trust Indian public opinion will resolutely crystallise along those lines. Meanwhile, we hope the Government of India will exert themselves to do away with imprisonment altogether for labour offences. The slavery, too, may be rendered less obnoxious by stopping the kangany system, making alleged advances irrecoverable, by the appointment of Indian protectors, and by having educational and physical tests and sex ratio. These things could be set right by the Ceylon Government if they wanted to, easily and quickly. But do they want it?

ELECTORAL REFORM.

Reuter cabled the other day a brief summary of the Report of the Speaker's Committee on Electoral Reform. The fuller details of the Report received by last mail go to show that the subject deserves more attention than was evoked by the summarised report which was cabled to this country. Apart from the contents of the Report, the origin and composition of the Committee are worth recalling. It came into existence as a result of the recent collapse of a Government effort to bring about a solution of the franchise difficulty and of the failure of the House of Commons to come to an agreed settlement on the question. The Speaker, however, came to the rescue and assuming the function of the Government appointed a strong Committee, selecting for its members experienced and independent men drawn from all parties and from both Houses of Parliament. The chief feature of the composition of this Committee of thirty members was that it contained an equal number of supporters and opponents of woman suffrage, it being assumed that this would be the most important and controversial question the Committee would be called upon to consider. The recommendations of such a Committee are bound to carry great weight both in Parliament and outside and should materially influence any legislation on the subject that may be introduced in the near future. Indeed, one may anticipate that a Bill based on the recommendations of the Committee will have more than a favourable chance of passage. Constituted as the Committee was, it was hardly to be expected that its Report would be unanimous, but it is satisfactory to find that the Committee have very nearly achieved unanimity—a result that must be attributed to the progressive tendencies liberated by the war. The Report deals with the whole subject of the basis of the franchise and its extension, of registration and of the method of voting, of electoral machinery and the redistribution of seats, and it is recognised that the agreed recommendations amount in sum to a revolution in the electoral system even though the revolution does not go so far as to make the franchise fully democratic in the best sense of the term.

The most important and radical of the changes proposed are with respect to proportional representation and woman suffrage—the two questions around which the most bitter controversies have centred for many years past. The decision with regard to the former was arrived at unanimously and respecting the latter by a majority. The great principle of proportional representation is recognised, and though the counties, except those districts which are very thickly populated and practically urban in character, are excluded, the change is proposed to be applied to all constituencies having or which may be given three or more members. Plural voting is doomed, surviving only in two comparatively harmless and shadowy forms: a man may have "one additional vote," but no more, for business premises, and also a graduate's vote. University representation is not only maintained, but extended, three members being given to Oxford and Cambridge each instead of two, and the newer English and Welsh universities along with the University of London are grouped together and assigned three members—a rather complicated arrangement which, as was pointed out, is a singular commentary on the relative importance which it may be inferred is attached to the industrial seats of learning Apart from this "attempt to bolster up an obsolete fancy franchise", the other minor recommendations are most admirable. All elections are to be held in future upon one day, and the State is to pay returning officers' charges—a very wholesome change—and the costs of elections generally are to be reduced, the expenditure of money by outside bodies being prohibited. Redistribution is to be accomplished on a broader and simpler basis: registration is to be vastly improved, the qualifying period for a vote being greatly reduced, residence being the sole qualification. Soldiers and sailors are not to be disqualified for absence abroad on service.

The chief interest of the Report, however, consists in its recommendation on the woman suffrage, which the Committee wish to be an accomplished fact. That woman should come into her own in this matter as she has by her devotion and achievements during the war won her place in most other fields of activity was, of course, inevitable. Latterly, there has been a general agreement that any scheme of electoral reform, however excellent, would, in the altered circumstances, be rendered impracticable by the omission to settle the question of suffrage for woman. The Committee gave full weight to this consideration which doubtless prompted the majority recommendation about extending the franchise to women. The scheme, however, does not go far enough and is inspired by a perhaps justifiable apprehension of the invasion of politics by women. Thus it is apprehended that if women were enfranchised on the same terms as men they would constitute a considerable majority of electorate: so the age of qualification for women is fixed considerably higher than that for men, the Report stating that 30 or 35 were the ages which found most favour in the Committee. The effect of this limitation on the number of women voters would, it is stated, be to reduce them to about four million, or just about half the number of men now on the register. Reservations such as this, however, seem to be prompted by a natural tendency to proceed cautiously towards the initiation of what may permissibly be regarded as a sweeping experiment and are bound to disappear after a few years' trial. The outstanding fact, as it is also the most gratifying, is that the principle of woman suffrage has been at last formally accepted. Its practical realization, and full application to national life, may be confidently expected to follow in due course.

Notes of the Day

The New Definition.

The Report of the Select Committee on the Defence of India Force Bill is an astonishing document. Impressed more by the "practical difficulties" than by "any minor anomalies of a theoretical nature" the Committee have committeed the Legislature to one of the most ludicrous expedients that we suppose has ever distinguished legislation in this country or any other. It seems to have struck those responsible for the measure, after it had been drafted, that by limiting conscription to European British Subjects within the meaning of the Code, they were leaving out of their calculations a number of trained and efficient volunteers,—Eurasians, Indian Christians and Parsis, etc.,—whose services with the active companies are not to be despised. This fact and the representations of Mr. Abbott, on behalf of his community, which seem to have been in the nature of special pleading for favoured treatment, have induced the Committee to resort to the amazing expedient of enacting that such persons are European British Subjects for the purposes of the Act. That is not all however. Anxious not to let anyone go, who can be roped in, they have amended the Bill so as to include within the definition of European British Subject, for the purposes of the Act, *anybody who by the 3rd March shall have filled up and lodged with the proper authority a registration form.*

Racial Distinctions Intensified.

Legislative absurdity could not go further than this. A Government dependent on a popular vote which bungled into such a ludierous position would be laughed out of office. But a Government that is not, and has handed over the working of the machinery of a bill of this kind to a Commander-in-Chief, who may be a good soldier but is no statesman and a very poor sort of legislator, assisted by a Select Committee, the majority of whose members are, like the Government, responsible to nobody in particular, can do this sort of thing and present the result solemnly to the supreme legislature of the land. Nobody wants to be hypercritical at such a time as this, when the main object is to get the men and to make sure of not missing those who have already had some sort of military training. But the result of the expedients resorted to in this case is most unfortunate. It intensifies in the most deplorable way racial distinctions that are already the greatest source of discontent,—and natural and justifiable discontent,—and indignation in this country and makes the Queen's Proclamation more of a delusion than ever. To suggest that the Committee have found the only way to achieve the object aimed at is childish.

Wanted.—A Little Intelligence.

So far as we are able to interpret the Committee's amendments to the Bill it is open to anybody within the next three days, if he can get hold of a registration form, whether he be a Eurasian of five or six generations, a European of non-British nationality or even a pure blooded Indian, if he likes to impose himself on the registration authorities as a European British Subject, to do so by merely filling in the form and lodging it with the proper authority. The thing sounds incredible but that is what the Report of the Committee says. In such a case, we are told, the person concerned has "put forward a claim to the status which should not be lightly refused." What the Committee obviously had at the back of their minds is that his willingness to come under the conscription law should not be lightly refused. No doubt in the emergent circumstances the opening of the door to the largest number possible is desirable. But there were other ways of doing it, and when the Committee talk of being more impressed by practical difficulties than minor anomalies of a theoretical nature they mean that they were not intelligent enough to get over difficulties that a little common sense, a little statesmanship, and the aid of a few legislative experts, instead of Mr. Abott, should have enabled them to cope with. But the initial blame, of course, is with the Commander-in-Chief and the unintelligent and shortsighted people who helped him to draft the Bill. However the subject deserves more detailed treatment and we await a fuller report of the speeches.

The Duty of Indians.

It is satisfactory to note that Sir Charles Munro made some amends for his cavalier treatment of the non-official members at the end of the debate and that the Bill passed into law amid a chorus of assurances that the latter mean to do everything in their power to make the scheme a success. That, of course, is the right note. We cannot allow the bungling of military legislators floundering in unaccustomed waters to interfere with the achievement of objects which are vital to the safety of the Empire and a scheme which, limited as it is, has roused the enthusiasm of Indians to a remarkable extent and is infusing new life into the nation. The non-official members in their attitude at the conclusion of the debate undoubtedly represented the feeling of the public, as far as we have been able to guage it. There is a general feeling that, whatever the shortcomings, the defects and the admitted contradictions and absurdities of the whole scheme, Indians have but one duty and that is to pass through the door that has been opened to them and to make good their claim to equal treatment when they get inside. By their deeds let them be judged. As we mentioned the other day, in Madras the enrolment of those ready to serve has already begun. In Bombay it is about to begin. Nothing could be more admirable than the attitude adopted by Mr. Tilak who is to preside at a mass recruiting meeting on Friday in this city. We hope the response to his appeal will be wide and wholehearted.

UNQUALIFIED BRITISH ARMY TRIUMPH.

FRENCH RAID NEAR VAILLY.

BRITISH ARMY TRIUMPH.

GERMAN STILL RETREATING.

BETWEEN GOMMECOURT AND TRANSLOY.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL WAR SERVICE.)
LONDON, Feb. 28.
Recd. 8 p.m., Feb. 28.

Reuter's correspondent at Headquarters, in a despatch dated 26th instant, says the Germans are still retreating along the whole line between Gommecourt and Transloy. The British are everywhere in close contact.

The weather cleared for a brief time to-day, the first time for ten days, permitting aeroplanes to get photographs, which should indicate the direction of the withdrawal.

It is now probable that the Germans will not stop till they reach the Arras-Cambrai line as the ceaseless British pressure threatens if they retain the Bapaume line. The German retreat may have tactically improved their position, but strategically the enemy is for the first time admitting defeat. The retreat is an unqualified triumph for the British army.

FRESH BRITISH SUCCESSES.

LEBARQUE AND LIGNY OCCUPIED.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
LONDON, Feb. 27.
Recd. 8 p.m., Feb. 28.

A British communiqué says, we further progressed, capturing Lebarque, occupying Ligny and establishing ourselves in the western and northern defences of Puisieux-Aumont.

We made a raid south-west of Lens and eastward of Armentieres on half a mile front, entering three lines of trenches and considerably damaging the defences.

POSSIBLE INTERPRETATIONS OF THE GERMAN MOVE.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL WAR SERVICE.)
LONDON, Feb. 27.
Recd. 7 a.m., Feb. 28.

The enemy's retreat on the Ancre is most considerable since the battle of the Marne and is undoubtedly the result of the continuous British pressure but experts, though they rejoice at the bloodless capture of some of the strongest German fortresses, utter a warning against exaggerating the significance of the German movement which is well-timed as regards weather, which enables the Germans to remove their guns and escape without great loss from positions threatened with envelopment.

While it is possible that the German move will cause a revision in the plans for the Allied offensive some critics think that the Germans, who are reported to have secured more troops as a result of the compulsory civilian service and enslavement of the subject populations are aiming at securing delay for the delivery of a stroke anticipating the Allied offensive.

BRITISH VICTORIES.

PRESIDENT POINCARE'S CONGRATULATIONS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL WAR SERVICE.)
PARIS, Feb. 28.
Recd. 8 p.m., Feb. 28.

President Poincare has telegraphed to King George congratulations on the splendid British successes in France and at Kut.

VALUABLE SERVICES IN WAR.

I. A. O'S AND INDIAN OFFICERS MENTIONED.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL WAR SERVICE.)
LONDON, Feb. 26.
Recd. 11-55 p.m., Feb. 28.

A Gazette of fifty-four pages mentions, for valuable services in the war, many Indian Army Officers and retired Indian officers, including Lieut-Colonel Lord Ampthill.

The following members of the Ceylon Contingent are also mentioned:—Lieut.-Colonel E. J. Hayward; Majors A. E. Andrews, T. H. Chapman and D. Rockwood; Captains Ingram and McCloskey; Lieuts. A. Lewis and B. R. Lewis; Sergt.-Major E. Fulcher and Sergeant, G. H. Stevens

COURAGEOUS CREW OF ORLEANS.

ENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION AT BORDEAUX.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL WAR SERVICE.)
BORDEAUX, Feb. 28.
Recd. 8 p.m., Feb. 28.

The reception of the American steamer Orleans was enthusiastic. The Prefect, at the head of prominent personages, boarded the boat and addressing the captain said, "Your courageous action is tantamount to the defeat of the northern barbarians."

A procession escorted the captain and crew to luncheon at the Town Hall amid cheering crowds.

GERMAN SUB-MARINISM.

EEMLAND OFFICER'S STORY.

ENGLISH PAPERS' OPINION.

VICTIMS OF RELIANCE ON GERMAN PROMISES.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL WAR SERVICE.)
LONDON, Feb. 26.
Recd. 11-55 p.m., Feb. 28.

The officers of the torpedoed Dutch steamer Eemland, interviewed in London state that simultaneously with the submarine's order to stop the torpedo was fired, just missing the Eemland's stern.

The captain replying in darkness to the peremptory command to quit the ship said "We are for the Dutch Government."

The only answer was "Five minutes."

The submarine was exceptionally large and carried two guns. The crew had to leave everything behind, even the ship's papers. They drifted in boats for twelve hours, thinly clad and were picked up by the British vessel at six o'clock in the morning.

The submarine made the officers of other Dutch ships take bombs to destroy the Eemland, but first the Germans pillaged the wine and food.

The newspapers express horror at the outrage and sympathy with the Dutch nation but they emphasise that the Dutch were the victims of their reliance on the German promises and of their disregard of the protection of the British Admiralty.

The papers opine that Germany is exploiting Holland's anxiety to keep out of the war and is turning the screw to see how much the victim will stand, possibly seeking an excuse to make a piratical food raid on Holland.

They point out that the neutrals, Scandinavia included, must now see their mistake in failing to find the basis of common defence against the brigand empire.

They speculate as to the attitude of the United States but do not expect action from that country.

WILSON'S LATEST.

A BILL TO BE INTRODUCED TO ARM SHIPS.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.
Recd. 7 a.m., Feb. 27.

President Wilson's speech foreshadowed that his action would probably be a declaration of armed neutrality.

A Bill granting President Wilson power to arm ships and other necessary authority has been introduced into the House of Representatives. It provides for a special bond issue of a hundred million dollars.

BRITISH SUCCESS ON THE TIGRIS.

POONA'S DEMONSTRATION.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)
POONA, Feb. 28.

Flags were flown from all military buildings possessing flagstaffs to-day in honour of General Maude's success on the Tigris.

OVER 1,500 REGISTER IN RANGOON

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)
RANGOON, Feb. 28.

It is stated that a telegram has been received here from the Army Department, Government of India, for circulation to those who are official Registration Authorities in Burma, pointing out that Anglo-Indians of all classes who may offer themselves for registration as European British subjects are to be registered freely, and their claims to come within the definition not to be strictly scrutinised. For the same reason, if any Anglo-Indian, who is believed to be a European British subject, fails to offer himself for registration, action against him under section 3 (2) of Ordinance should be taken.

Over 1,500 persons have up to date registered in the office of the Commissioner of Police.

BISHOP OF MADRAS ON HOME RULE.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)
MADRAS, Feb. 28.

Speaking at Masulipatam the Lord Bishop of Madras is reported to have said that he felt the question of Home Rule, which was agitating the whole of India should give way to the question of industrial education which was really of greater requirement than Home Rule.

TURKS WITHDRAW FROM BAGHAILAH.

BRITISH SUCCESS FOLLOWED UP.

FOOTING GAINED IN ENEMY POSITION.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
LONDON, Feb. 27.
Recd. 11-55 p.m., Feb. 28.

In the House of Lords to-day, Lord Curzon read a telegram from General Maude stating that on the morning of 25th February, our cavalry and infantry moved westwards in pursuit of the retreating enemy. Strong Turkish rearguards supported by artillery occupied a trench position fifteen miles west-north-west of Kut, evidently covering the withdrawal from Baghailah.

After intense bombardment our infantry assaulted the enemy's position and obtained a footing therein while our cavalry operated round the Turkish northern flank.

At least sixty prisoners, numerous flocks, equipment and stores were captured.

Our aeroplanes bombed the steamer towing the Turkish pontoon bridge up stream with the result that the tow slipped and the pontoons floated downstream.

Lord Curzon added that it was evident that the scene of operations had shifted considerably upstream beyond Kut and the success announced yesterday had been followed up.

He believed that several thousand prisoners had been taken. It was clear that the events of last year had now been entirely wiped out (cheers).

TURKS ADMIT EVACUATION OF KUT

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
LONDON, Feb. 26.
Recd. 8 p.m., Feb. 28.

A Turkish communiqué admits the evacuation of Kut.

SOLDIERS FOR AGRICULTURAL WORK.

30,000 TO BE RELEASED.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
LONDON, Feb. 27.
Recd. 1-40 p.m., Feb. 28.

In the House of Commons to-day Sir Richard Winfrey, Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Agriculture, announced that the War Office proposed to supply 30,000 soldiers for agricultural work, of whom 15,000, would be temporarily released from the Home Defence Army for the Spring cultivation and others would work under military control.

GAS ATTACKS ON RUSSIAN FRONT.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
LONDON, Feb 27.
Recd. 8 p.m., Feb. 28.

A wireless Russian communiqué says, in the region of Smorgon the enemy discharged eight gas waves in seven hours.

We repulsed a Turkish attack northwards of Sivassky.

BLOCKADE OF GREECE.

A SLIGHT RELAXATION.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
LONDON, Feb. 28.
Recd. 8 p.m., Feb. 28.

Reuter learns that the Allies are permitting certain cargoes of grain to enter Greek ports in order to relieve the more pressing necessities of the Greeks, but the blockade will not be raised until General Sarrail's flank is completely secure.

EASTERN FRONT.

INCREASED ACTIVITY.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
LONDON, Feb. 27.
Recd. 8 p.m., Feb. 28.

A wireless German communiqué says, activity on the eastern front has increased with the decreasing cold.

THE LACONIA OUTRAGE.

EIGHT DIE FROM EXPOSURE.

TWO AMERICAN LADIES BURIED AT SEA.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
LONDON, Feb. 27.
Recd. 1-40 p.m., Feb. 28.

It transpires that eight out of the nine persons missing from the Laconia died in the boat from exposure. There were six American passengers on board and fifteen members of the crew were Americans. All the Americans were saved except two ladies, who were buried at sea.

THE CASUALTIES.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
LONDON, Feb. 27.
Recd. 7 a.m., Feb. 27.

A Queenstown message to the "Daily Chronicle" says that the Laconia was twice torpedoed in comparatively calm weather. She listed heavily and boats were lowered with difficulty. There was no panic. Passengers' estimates of the number of the drowned vary from ten to twenty-two including two Americans.

LATER.

It is confirmed that two American ladies, who were passengers on board the Laconia, died from exposure in a boat.

It is officially announced that three of the Laconia's passengers are dead and three missing. Six members of the crew are missing and six have been taken to hospital.

AMERICANS DROWNED.

A DEFINITE OVERT ACT.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
WASHINGTON, Feb 28.
Recd. 8 p.m., Feb. 28.

Official despatches confirm the deaths of Americans on the Laconia, thus establishing an overt act. The incident is regarded as another Lusitania case.

Dr. Wilson and State Department officials consider that no steps should be taken until the Congress acts on the President's request for authority to arm merchantmen. The sinking of the Laconia will hasten the action of the Congress.

Committees of both Houses have been busy redrafting the Bill, but it is now expected that they will acquiesce in the Government's wish that the Bill be passed practically unchanged.

AMERICAN LADIES AMONG VICTIMS.

A PRIEST'S EXPERIENCES.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL WAR SERVICE.)
LONDON, Feb 28.
Recd. 8 p.m., Feb. 28.

Two American ladies among the victims of the Laconia were among the seven who died from exposure out of the twenty-one occupants of a water-logged boat.

A priest on board said the boat hit the Laconia's stern when being lowered and the planks burst open. The boat drifted without oars or rudder with water up to the gunwale from ten at night till three in the afternoon.

Everybody was crowded in the bows and stern with the waves washing overboard. Others, including an American negro, who died were thrown into the sea as the weight of the bodies would have endangered that water-logged boat.

The priest, in an interview, said the lady at his side, who was an actress coming to England to be married, saw her fiancee die in the boat.

STORY OF THE CREW.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL WAR SERVICE.)
LONDON, Feb. 28.
Recd. 11-55 p.m., Feb. 28.

165 of crew of the Laconia have crossed from Dublin to Liverpool. The majority had been previously torpedoed in Franconia.

Further stories from survivors confirm that the vessel was twice torpedoed. The first hit the stern and the Captain ordered all lights to be turned on to facilitate the escape of the passengers and the crew. The Laconia listed and then righted herself, sinking slowly.

The submarine then reappeared and torpedoed the liner in the engine-room, though the boats close by were clearly visible in the blaze of electricity. The Laconia sank immediately. The Captain and several officers had to swim.

The submarine subsequently bobbed up astern of the boat crowded with women and demanded the Captain. An evasive answer was given and the submarine finally vanished.

The steward kept the occupants of one boat alive by imitations of Harry Lauder and other comedians, forcing all to join in choruses until they were picked up.

FRENCH RAID GERMAN LINES.

PATROL ENCOUNTERS IN BEZONVOUX AND VOSGES.

PRISONERS TAKEN.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
LONDON, Feb. 27.
Recd. 7 a.m., Feb. 27.

This afternoon's French communiqué says:—We raided the German lines south-east of Vailly and brought back prisoners. Patrol encounters occurred in the region of Bezonvaux and in the Vosges.

GRAND FLEET APPOINTMENTS.

SIR CHARLES MADDEN AND SIR WILLIAM PAKENHAM.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
LONDON, Feb. 27.
Recd. 7 a.m., Feb. 27.

Photographs, which are published to-day, show that Sir Charles Madden is second-in-command of the Grand Fleet and Sir William Pakenham commands the Battle Cruiser Fleet.

STEAMERS SUNK.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
LONDON, Feb. 27.
Recd. 11-55 p.m., Feb. 28.

The following steamers were also sunk during week-end:—Beneficent, Wiser, Falcon, Grenadier, Longhirst and Trojan Prince. (British).

The captain and six of the crew of the Grenadier were killed.

The total tonnage lost was about 14,000.

LOSS OF PERSEUS.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)
MADRAS, Feb. 28.

The following appears in Colombo papers:—The loss of the Perseus was probably due to either floating mine or internal explosion.

Of the crew one European and two Chinese are missing.

INCREASED PRICE OF NEWSPAPERS.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
LONDON, Feb. 27.
Recd. 11-55 p.m., Feb. 28.

The "Daily Mail" announces increases in price to penny and the "Observer" to two pence.

RECRUITING MEETING AT BANKIPORE

APPRECIATION OF OFFER OF COMMISSIONED RANKS.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)
BANKIPORE, Feb. 28.

A crowded and enthusiastic public meeting of the citizens of Bankipore was held yesterday evening to thank the Viceroy for allowing the Indians to enlist and to take steps for recruiting. Mr. S. Sinha, who presided, dealt with the history of the question and said how he had withdrawn a resolution on the subject in the Imperial Council in 1911 on the private assurance conveyed to him by the then Commander-in-Chief that His Majesty would announce the boon at the Durbar. That stage had passed, but they rejoiced now that the boon had come even though belated. He thought the passing of the Defence of India Bill coupled with the assurance that His Majesty had been graciously pleased to offer commissioned ranks to qualified Indians, would be the proverbial silver lining in the dark horizon facing them at present.

Nawab Sarfaraj Hussain Khan moving the first resolution made a most patriotic speech urging young Indians to enlist and to set an example to all fathers he had sent his only son to enlist. Several speakers addressed the meeting which after appointing a very influential committee for carrying on recruiting work dispersed at a late hour.

Official and Personal.

Their Excellencies visited the New War Hospital at Dadar yesterday evening.

Mr. G. Richards officiates for Sir Robert Gales as Chief Engineer, Railway Board.

DAVIAN FRONTIER.

ENEMY TROOPS REPULSED. ROUMANIAN'S BOMBARD

TRENCHES ON SERETH.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
LONDON, Feb. 27.
Recd. 1-40 p.m., Feb. 28.

A Roumanian communiqué says:—We repulsed with losses strong enemy reconnaissances on the north-western frontier of Moldavia. We bombarded the enemy trenches on the Sereth dispersing the enemy troops and the supply columns.

MAHARAJAH OF BIKANIR AT CAIRO.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
CAIRO, Feb. 27.
Recd. 11-55 p.m., Feb. 28.

The Maharaja of Bikanir has arrived. He was met by the representatives of the Sultan and the High Commissioner.

The Maharajah visited the High Commissioner and afterwards proceeded to Assuan, the Sultan placing two luxurious steamers at his disposal.

ORDERS ON MESSRS TILAK AND PAL.

PROTEST MEETING AT MADRAS.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)
MADRAS, Feb. 28.

A meeting was held yesterday evening in the Y.M.I.A. hall with Mr. S. Kasturiranga Aiyangar editor of the "Hindu" in the chair, to protest against the orders preventing Messrs. B. G. Tilak and Bepin Chandra Pal from entering the provinces of Punjab and Delhi.

The following resolution moved by Mr. A. Rangasamy Iyengar was passed:—

"That this meeting of the citizens of Madras view with strong disapproval and grave concern the unjustifiable action taken under the Defence of India Act by the Punjab and Delhi Governments against Messrs. B. G. Tilak and B. C. Pal."

U. P. LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

MR. CHINTAMANI'S RESOLUTIONS LOST

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)
LUCKNOW, Feb. 27.

At the meeting of the United Provinces Legislative Council yesterday, the Hon. Mr. Holms presiding, Mr. Chintamani proposed that Government orders relating to the appointment of Subordinate Judges and Munsiffs should be amended so as to require of the candidates, the capacity to read and write Hindi in the Nagari character, and not only Hindustani (Urdu) in the Persian character.

The resolution was vigorously opposed by Nawab Abdul Majid, Mr. Saiyid Ali Nabi and Mr. Wazir Hasan; the former said that the only objection of the motion appeared to him to be a desire to keep alive the old Hindu-Moslem controversy. The motion was lost.

Another resolution by Mr. Chintamani that the U.P.'s would not be able to bear the increased cost of the recommendations of the Public Services Commission was characterised by the President as premature and was lost.

The Council met again this morning when the business was concluded. The next meeting will be held on 18th March.

NEW INDIAN MEMBER OF MADRAS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

APPRECIATION OF RETIRING MEMBER'S SERVICES.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)
MADRAS, Feb. 26.

The Hon. Dewan Bahadur P. Rajagopala Chariar assumed charge of his office as Indian member of the Madras Executive Council from Sir P. Sivaswamy Iyer to-day under the usual salute.

A Gazette Extraordinary says:—The Governor-in-Council desires to place on record his warm appreciation of the valuable services which the Hon. Sir Sivaswamy Iyer has rendered to the State during the term of his office. Sir Sivaswamy Iyer's intimate knowledge of the needs and aspirations of the people of India and his distinguished legal attainments have been of the greatest assistance to his Excellency-in-Council where his high sense of duty and genial disposition have secured for him the respect and affection of all.

BANDMAN V ADA REEVE.

RULE TO STAND OVER.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)
CALCUTTA, Feb. 27.

At the High Court, to-day, before Mr. Justice Chitty, the rule obtained on behalf of Maurice S. Bandman calling upon Mrs. Wilfred Cotton, better known as Miss Ada Reeve, to show cause why she should not furnish security for her appearance in the suit brought against her by Mr. Bandman in which he claimed Rs. 50,000 as damages for alleged breach of contract, was called on for hearing.

Mr. Buckland representing the defendant, said it was untrue that Mrs. Cotton was leaving Calcutta on Wednesday week.

His Lordship directed the rule to stand over and fixed Friday next for the hearing of the suit.

IMPERIAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from page 5.)

commercial opinion in regard to the proposed legislation without entering fully into the reasons which led the commercial committees of India to approve and support the Act of last year. I may say shortly that it was felt that without such legislation bankers, through no fault of their own, would be deprived of their rights to recover the amounts of their loans from the borrowers and while it was recognised that certain firms and individuals would undoubtedly suffer by the passing of the Act, it was felt to be only right that any loss which might occur, should fall upon the trader, who, in negotiating his Bill, undertook all the risk of its being dishonoured from whatever cause and not on the banks which, in the exceptional circumstances of the time, were faced with a liability for loss not contemplated by either party when the negotiations were originally entered into.

The present Bill as stated in the objects and reasons, involves no new principle and merely extends the working of the Act to cover the special circumstances which exist in India.

In England the time which elapses between the drawing of a bill and its presentment for acceptance in Germany or Austria is a matter of a few days, and it will be within the recollections of the Hon. members that for some days previous to the actual outbreak of war, there is reported to have been a practical suspension of trading operation between merchants in England and those in enemy countries. It is probable, therefore, that there were few, if any Bills of Exchange drawn in England unaccepted in enemy countries. On the outbreak of war in India on the other hand, the time which must necessarily elapse between the drawing of a bill and its presentment for acceptance in an enemy country is at least three weeks and in that period a number of Bills of Exchange were negotiated, which, it is the object of this bill to protect.

It may interest the Council to know that while entirely accurate figures probably cannot be given, it is estimated that the amounts covered by such bills is about £103,000 of which about £91,000 represents bills drawn in the City of Bombay and of this figure, roughly 75 per cent were drawn by European merchants when the Act of 1916 was on the agenda of the Council last September. I gave notice of an amendment, the words of which have effect to the proposals contained in the Bill which I have now the honour to submit, but the Hon. members in charge of the legal and commerce and industry departments of Government desired to postpone giving effect to the amendment, until they had an opportunity of enquiring as to whether or not, there was any special reason for the omission in the English Act of a provision similar to that which I desire to insert here. I accordingly withdrew the amendment at that time and I understand that the Government of India are now satisfied that there was no special reason for the omission of these words in the English Act. We may, therefore, take it I think, that the only reason was that circumstances had not arisen, which made the inclusion necessary in England, owing to the geographical position of the countries concerned. In India, as I have pointed out, the conditions are different. The provision seems equitable and I think I may say that it has the approval of the commercial community and I trust, therefore, that it will meet the unanimous acceptance of the Council.

FREE COMPULSORY PRIMARY EDUCATION.

Mr. B. N. Sarma (Madras), moved the following resolution:—"This council recommends to the Governor General-in-Council that the Government of India should recognise (a) That Imperial revenues should accept the burden of the future extensions of primary education (b) That a scheme whereby it may be made universal, compulsory and free throughout the British India within a period of 15 years, may be drawn up and sanctioned at an early date and introduced as soon as possible after the termination of the war."

After quoting from the speeches of officials and other documents he said, they showed there was absolutely no differences between him and those that thought with him and Government, how essential it was to give every boy and girl, the highest education they were capable of receiving, if it was really desired that India should escape from economic death, the grip that would strangle her beyond recovery.

Referring to the first part of the resolution he said, he asked for it, because that task which had been laid on local boards and municipalities in the past had not been, could not be, and would never be discharged satisfactorily with the limited resources at their disposal, because there was no prospect of any reasonable expansion of their resources commensurate with their undertakings.

The provincial Governments had not shown by their past conduct either willingness or ability to adopt a definite policy, except perhaps one of helpless indifference. The Government of India had themselves felt the necessity for assisting or in effect undertaking a portion of the task without actually committing themselves to such a policy.

After discussing the present portion of education finance, he said there was no alternative left them but to ask Imperial Government to undertake the burden, a burden which considering the surplus they were enjoying before the war, they could well bear. But the source of finance was immaterial so long as adequate money was guaranteed.

FAILURE OF VOLUNTARY SYSTEM

Proceeding, to the second part of the resolution he showed by an analysis of the statistics of the population and education, that the present rate was not substantial though more schools had been opened during the last five years. There had been also a lot of wastage in that many did not pass through the initial stages. Thus the present voluntary system had failed of its effect.

He then referred to the question of the various stages of education in which the different provinces found themselves, and said in 15 years these differences could be levelled up when they would be prepared for uniform development.

He also alluded to the difficulties that stood in the way and suggested, in conclusion that the local bodies and municipalities which were willing to raise the requisite funds with or without such assistance as the Government might afford for making elementary education free and compulsory should be permitted to do so, that the principle of compulsion should be enforced where conditions were favourable and where many could be diverted without grave detriment to other acres, chiefly with a view to accustom the people to the idea and to appreciate its benefits, that persons who were unable to pay a fee should be allowed to obtain the benefit of free education and that free education might be steadily kept in view and may be the goal in the near future. A scheme of gradual expansion with the necessary financial provision be prepared at an early date and given effect to as early as possible.

RESOLUTION OPPOSED.

Sir Sankaran Nair, in opposing the resolution moved by Mr. Sarma said, that as the mover had not pressed the first part of the resolution he would confine himself to the second part. At the outset he might say he subscribed to all the noble sentiments referred to by Mr. Sarma in his speech.

Continuing he said, Mr. Gokhale's Bill was for a limited purpose only, and was hedged round by all sorts of conditions, but yet it was rejected, and Mr. Sarma, who might be expected to refer to these, had not said a word here. The limitations necessary then were considered unnecessary now. Sir Harcourt Butler, in opposing Mr. Gokhale's Bill, had referred to many objections and one of those was that there was no pronounced popular demand for free compulsory education, and this held good even now. It was time that a few Municipalities and District Boards had expressed their liking, but that was not all. It was pointed out that Congress and Moslem League had demanded, but it was not from these bodies any opposition was expected.

Sir Harcourt Butler had objected to the Bill on the ground that the voluntary system had not been fully tried. Even then, there were not enough funds to meet the demand. If conditions were bad then, they were far worse now. The further question of the improvement of the teacher, which was insistent then had not lost its force now. That primary education as now imparted was not appreciated and justly too, was evident from the fact that there was a great paucity of scholars in primary schools.

Again, Mr. Sarma had not outlined any scheme of machinery whereby we could compel boys and girls to attend schools. He would like to have from the hon. members, who wished to support Mr. Sarma, to show in what way the objections which seemed so potent five years ago had lost their force, and if possible, to outline a scheme, on the strength of which they could ask for a reversal of the policy of Government.

FAVOURABLE CIRCUMSTANCES AFTER THE WAR.

Nawab Ali Chaudhur (Bengal), in speaking on the resolution said, though he fully sympathised with the mover's desire to see primary education in India widely extended the solution as suggested on the resolution, did not meet with his approval. It was premature on the present occasion to commit the country to any definite line of action. Nobody could positively say when the war would end, and what would be the financial position of Government. Fifteen years was by no means a short period.

He hoped favourable circumstances would present after the war. He did not mean to underrate the importance of free and compulsory education, but he did not think the method suggested was of any practical value.

He thought without any very great fuss, they might prepare the ground for free and compulsory education. He enumerated the line of action on which provincial Governments might proceed to remove the existing discouraging elements in the way of education. The better course would be to pull on as best as they could by putting the resources which they could conveniently command from time to time, to the best use and remedying the existing drawbacks which hampered natural progress.

Sir Verney Lovett discussed the administrative difficulties which would attend the introduction of compulsory education in his Provinces.

He asked by what methods compulsion would be introduced and what classes would be governed by the Act. He said Mr. Gokhale's idea was that a committee of the Municipal Board should see that the children attended school, but he feared no committee could do this, and the duty would probably fall on small officials of the Board, a system which would not work. If the children did not attend their parents would be fined, and he greatly feared oppression would follow. He said they must consider the ideas of the people, and he did not think they ought to expel those ideas by force.

EXTENSION WITHOUT COMPULSION.

He considered that the present system of primary education might be improved, developed and modified and made so elastic that parents would welcome it, and they might anticipate a great extension of primary education without introducing compulsion.

Mr. Sukul in supporting, said the rural conditions had to be improved first. He thought India was no longer an isolated country and urged the motion to the consideration of the council.

THE ONLY METHOD OF SOLOING THE PROBLEM.

Dr. Sapru said that the objections which had been raised by Sir Sankaran Nair had been very disappointing. It was true Government had issued a resolution on the subject, but the public had not been taken into confidence. The main objection to

(Continued in Column 5.)

THE CALL TO YOUNG INDIA!

A STIRRING APPEAL.

"IN THE NAME OF INDIA AND FOR THE GLORY OF THE EMPIRE."

The weekly journal "Young India" publishes a stirring appeal to Indians to answer the call for volunteers for the Defence Force, from which we take the extracts printed below. The journal doubtless represents the feelings of the younger generation of Indians in this matter. It will be noted also that the Home Rule Leagues of which "Young India" is a recognised organ have arranged a great recruiting meeting to be held on Friday next.

A GREAT OPPORTUNITY.

"Young India" writes:—

There is no doubt that the new legislation regarding the formation of the Indian units in the projected Defence of India Force, is a great opportunity offered to us. In the face of that opportunity it seems to us that we ought not to spend any more time upon complaints about the policy that has prevailed up to now, nor even upon fears and apprehensions regarding the policy that may be followed hereafter in respect of this matter. We think that there has been quite enough of such complaints and criticisms. We have proved our case. The time has now arrived when we must act, as we have professed, and *perform* according to the hopes and aspirations which, we have over and over again asserted, have always been inspiring us. We have said that the military spirit in us is eager to find an outlet for the defence of the Motherland and the assistance of the Empire. We have now the opportunity offered to us. It may be that the opportunity is not exactly such as we wish for. It may be that it is accompanied with certain restrictions and qualifications which are not exactly in consonance with our ideas of what ought to be. But it *is* an opportunity, denied so long, longed for ardently, demanded emphatically. And we *must* seize it.

Those who are of proper age, must offer themselves in large numbers to be enrolled as volunteers. Our leaders, who are beyond that age, are there to guard the honour and the interests of India. They will see that a proper status and suitable conditions are accorded to us, and even if they are powerless just now to achieve this completely they will have demonstrated the justice of our claims and they will take measures to see that if not now, at least in the near future these claims will be satisfied. But it depends on younger persons to add force to their pleadings by hastening to do their part of the work. There are already signs of a great military future before us. The bar under which we have been chafing all this while, seems to be on the point of being removed.

The greater the response of Indians to the call of volunteering, the easier would be the work. We have each of us to be at our posts. We have to be prepared for all sacrifices. We must not count the discomforts and difficulties and restrictions and restraints. All those considerations must merge into and disappear in the consideration of the service of the country. The Government is straining every nerve to steer the country clear of all the difficulties and dangers that arise in such a time of world crisis. They have tried to do their work with as little disturbance to the ordinary course of things and with as little trouble to the people at large. It is the bounden duty of all of us to support and strengthen the Government in these efforts. If the usual course of affairs is to be disturbed, we must bear the difficulties that arise therefrom cheerfully and uncomplainingly. Personal troubles must be put into the background and we must go forward to co-operate with the Government in the work of the defence of the country.

The need is not the need of our country only but also of the Empire. This Empire, of which we are so proud and under the *aegis* of which we hope to fulfil our national destinies, this Empire is demanding men, money and munitions for the speedy termination of conditions which are threatening it and which are seeking to thwart its work and its mission. We all realise that the British Empire is an organisation of the utmost importance to the peace and progress of the world. We know that it has performed great services to humanity as a whole and to various communities and nationalities in particular. We know that it has yet to render many services to the world. We are fully conscious that the future, to which we look forward for our own country and for others, depends on the strength and integrity of the British Empire. We see that a most serious danger is threatening the integrity of the Empire and that the principles and ideals, for which it stands, are in jeopardy. It is indeed at the most serious crisis of its history. It is bound to get out of it with triumph. But in order that this may be, the Empire has to put forward its utmost effort. All that its man-power can do must be done. All that its material resources can do, must be done. Every part of the Empire must join in the work. All the parts have no doubt risen to the call of the Empire. But the hour of triumph is now nigh and the actual moment will arrive when the whole Empire gathers all its man-power and its money-power together and hurls itself against the enemy that is confronting it. For this great final effort the Empire is preparing and calling upon all its parts to join in it. It has assigned to India its particular share of the work, both as to the supply of man-power and the supply of money-power and India will take up the work and discharge its obligation in a way worthy of her greatness. In the name of India for the glory of the Empire Indians are offering themselves.

INDIA ON HER TRIAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE CHRONICLE."

Sir,—To-day India is on her trial, and every true lover of the country is anxious to see how Young India responds to that call of the Government to enlist in the defence of the motherland. Not a few Indians have worked but without success for years to secure for their countrymen this precious privelege of serving their country and defending their hearths and homes in the hour of danger. Many years ago I tried my best to start a separate Corps for the Parsis, in Bombay, and with that object I worked with my late friend General Burnett, and not a few Governors of Bombay, but I was given to understand that there existed a resolution of the Government of India against my proposal. But now the doors are opened for all Indian communities to serve their country, and thus to serve the Empire in the hour of need. You have very rightly pointed out in your able leader of the 28th instant—"But the task of defence is more a scientific than an academic proposition in these days. It is not a matter of glowing sentiment so much as of hard, sustained and self-sacrificing training. And it is in this spirit that the problem has got to be approached and the opportunity grasped." The great opportunity given to the Indians must be grasped, and a recruitment campaign ought to be opened throughout the country, and for that purpose let us set to work in right earnest.

The sportsman of India ought to give an intelligent lead to young India, and the gymkhanas and sporting clubs would do well to combine and make a national effort to attain a national end. The call to duty must be patriotically answered if India is to be given a proper place in the Councils of the Empire at no distant date. I entirely agree with you that "in a special sense, the appeal is to young India to those fine, generous and ardent spirits of the new generation who have been already fired and ennobled by the "vision of patriotism." I may be permitted to quote here what I wrote nearly a decade ago, in my book "Stray Thoughts on Indian Cricket":

> "The Arms Act must go. Modern India is loyal to the core. The able-bodied sons of India must be trained to bear arms. The brave Sikhs and Gurkhas and the other warlike sons of India will be fighting shoulder to shoulder with the sons of Britain in the hour of danger in preserving our magnificent Empire, reared by the genius of Englishmen. It will never do to emasculate a nation by depriving them of the use of fire-arms for the defence of their hearths and homes. It is well said of our Rulers they "can play and by Jove they can fight too."

The Empire idea is fructifying everywhere and Indians must rise to the occasion, if they are not to lag behind.—Yours, etc.,

J. M. FRAMJEE PATEL,
Cumballa Hill, 28th Feb. 1917.

HOME RULE LEAGUE'S APPEAL.

The following appeal has been issued by the Joint Honorary Secretaries of the Home Rule League (Bombay Branch.)

"I shall give up the Home Rule Movement if you do not come forward to defend your home. If you want Home Rule, be prepared to defend your home. Had it not been for my age, I would have been the first to volunteer. You cannot reasonably say that the ruling will be done by you and the fighting for you by Europeans or Japanese in the matter of home defence. Show by your act that you are willing to take advantage of the opportunity offered to you by the Viceroy to enlist in the Indian Citizen Army....." Lok. Tilak

"It is the honour of serving the Motherland, the honour of being one of the defenders of the Country, making yourselves ready for the time when other Nations shall no longer say that India is unable to defend herself.....That seems to me the opportunity that is opening before us to-day. I hope that before we leave this hall we shall have taken down five hundred names. Otherwise I should be a little bit ashamed of you.....Mrs. Besant.

(In accordance with the wishes of Mrs. Besant and Lok. Tilak, we have opened a register to record the names of those who are willing to serve in the Defence of India Force, and we have to appeal to you to send us immediately your name if you are willing to enlist.

UMER SOBANI,
S. G. BANKER,
Joint Hon. Secretaries.

251, Hornby Road, Fort.
Bombay, 27th Feb. 1917.

MASS MEETING ON FRIDAY.

Under the joint auspices of the Bombay Home Rule Leagues a mass meeting will be held at Shankaram's Chawl, Murgbhat, on Friday night at 9-30 to urge the young men of Bombay to respond to the call for volunteers for the Defence Force. Mr. B. G. Tilak will preside and among those who have consented to speak are Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, Messrs. Kelkar, J. Baptista and B. G. Horniman.

IMPERIAL COUNCIL.

Continued from Column 2.)

Mr. Sarma's resolution was that he went further than Mr. Gokhale in that he put it in very unqualified terms. But, it should be remembered that the uneducated populace could not move in this matter in the first place. It was the duty of Government and that of their educated countrymen to take the first step.

Much was spoken against resorting to compulsion but he submitted that this principle was not fought shy of in other matters, thus when people were compulsorily vaccinated there were riots as a consequence. Then again in the U. P. they had a system of compulsory labour and some of the supporters were in the ranks of Government. Again the history of nearly all civilised countries proved free compulsory education was the only method of solving the problem.

It was said that there was no suitable agency to give effect to compulsion, but he thought that with the new local boards they had in U. P. it would be difficult to find a good machinery.

It was asked by Sir Varney Lovet whether the present system had failed. If it had not failed in all other respects it had failed in one very important respect, in that they had not at all satisfied public opinion.

Referring to the activities made in U. P. during past 15 years he said, they had been wholly ineffectual when they remembered the extremely slow progress of education. They, the non-official members, had only one alternative and that was that they should have a free compulsory educational system.

SIR SANKARAN NAIR'S DESTRUCTIVE SPEECH.

Mr. Sastri said Sir Sankaran Nair had not made any constructive proposals. His speech was entirely destructive which was supposed to be the special prerogative of non-official members.

When Mr. Gokhale brought forward his Bill before the Government of India the Member for Education announced that the Government was entirely in favour of universal education but that the best procedure to adopt would be to ask the local Governments to empower local bodies to make education free and compulsory. The idea was taken up, but the local Governments in their turn said that it was a matter for the Government of India. Therefore, they had come again to the Government of India.

The Department of Education as Mr. Gokhale used to emphasise, was formed in order to mark the importance which Government desired to attach to education. What had this department of education done so far? The idea of forming an Attendance Committee had been criticised as such committees had not been formed. Nobody could be sure how they would work.

Mr. Sastri then referred to the committee appointed in Bombay to consider the position of the local bodies and the committee had unanimously recommended that the local bodies should be entrusted with greater powers. If Attendance Committees did not work they might be done away with. But it was unfair to criticise them in advance.

In conclusion he said:—"Let us go forward if everybody were in favour of compulsion. The introduction of compulsion would be a meaningless thing. It is precisely because the people are backward that compulsion is most needed at the present time."

EVADING THE POINT AT ISSUE.

Mr. Jinnah was in entire agreement with the spirit of the resolution. He thought there could be no non-official member with any other spirit. He hoped that the views expressed by Sir Verney Lovett were not the views of the Government of India and alluded at length to the administrative difficulties advanced by him.

The speaker wanted to know whether Sir Verney Lovett would explain when the time would come when compulsion could be introduced without pressure. The argument was out of place in the twentieth century. It was evading the point at issue to say that they must persuade everybody of the benefit of education before using compulsion.

Referring to Sir Sankaran Nair's speech, Mr. Jinnah asked what had the Government done to alter the conditions, since Mr. Gokhale introduced his bill in this council.

Mr. B. N. Basu wanted to know how far Government had succeeded in extending elementary education during the past five years and argued no appreciable advance had been made.

He alluded to the conditions in Japan and Austria-Hungary, where the voluntary system failed and compulsion was adopted.

After dealing with compulsion in Germany, France and conservative England, he urged that compulsion was needed in India.

The Council reassembled after lunch, Mr. Lowndes presiding.

The Commander-in-Chief introduced the Court Martial Sentences Bill.

He said it was unnecessary to deal at any length with the Bill; but, briefly it put into the hands of high officers the power to condone any acts hastily committed by young officers, which laid the officers open to be tried by court martial. Some officers were young and impulsive and did not always consider what might be the result of their acts, and the Bill empowered certain officers to endorse on the reports that the question of their being tried by a court martial should be suspended for the present, and the officer be given an opportunity by good conduct to rehabitate his character and to earn the remission of the suspended sentence.

The rules of business having been suspended the Bill was considered and passed without discussion.

Mr. Wardlaw Milne introduced the Bill to amend Indian Bills of Exchange Act 1916.

On the motion of Sir Reginald Craddock, the Prevention of Cruelty Bill was referred to a Select Committee consisting of Mr. Lowndes, Rai Sita Nath Roy, Mr. Dadabhoy, Mr. Muddiman, Rai Krishna Sahay, Nawab Saved Nawab Ali Chaudhari, Mr. Monahan, Mr. Walsh and himself.

The destruction of Records Bill was passed without discussion.

Sir Sankaran Nair moved that the date for the presentation of the Select Committees report on the Patna University Bill be extended from the 28th February to 20th March. The motion was agreed to.

BOMBAY SAILORS' HOME SOCIETY.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The annual general meeting of the Bombay Sailors' Home Society was held yesterday in the Royal Alfred Sailors' Home, Mr. R. H. H. Hopkins presiding.

After Mr. B. H. Hewett, Honorary Secretary, had read the minutes, the directors' report for the year 1916, together with the accounts, was taken as read. It was stated in the course of the report:—

It was stated in the report for the year 1916:—

The Committee of the Bombay Sailors' Home Society have pleasure in presenting to those interested in the Royal Alfred Sailors' Home their seventy-ninth annual report. The total number of officers and men, of various ratings and ranks, boarded in the Home during the year was 76,284, being a daily average of 208.42, against a daily average of 162.12 in 1915. This constitutes a notable record. The number of non-commissioned officers and men of H. M.'s Army accommodated in the Home during the year was 393, as against 148 in 1915. It was not found possible at times to accommodate all applicants, especially during the months of November and December, owing to the Home being fully occupied by seamen. During the year 90 destitute seamen were admitted to the Home, and maintained by the Board of Trade at the instance of the Shipping Master, Bombay. There were also seven admissions into the Home for various periods (totalling 73 days) of cases of destitution amongst merchant seamen, who were not eligible for maintenance by the Board of Trade. These seamen were maintained at the expense of the Home.

There were 24 admissions into St. George's Hospital of officers and seamen of the Merchant Service. Men of the Royal Navy requiring medical attention were treated by their own medical officers.

The messing arrangements were carried out as in previous years and gave satisfaction. The inmates of the Home were treated to a special dinner on Christmas Day out of the funds of the Home, and they were similarly treated on New Year's Day by the Home Purveyor. The Reading Room was well supplied with English newspapers and periodicals, the cost as heretofore being defrayed from the interest accruing from the Henry Memorial Fund. The local daily newspapers have been regularly supplied, and the Committee desire to thank the proprietors of the "Advocate of India" and the "Bombay Chronicle" for continuing to supply a daily copy of their paper gratis. The thanks of the Committee are also due to the proprietors of the "English Mail" for continuing to supply, free of cost, a weekly copy of their paper until publication ceased in October. The Committee desire to thank those ladies and gentlemen who have kindly sent books and periodicals during the year.

The Committee also tender their thanks to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty for their grant of newspapers and periodicals to the value of £6 for the year 1916.

The extensions for the separate accommodation of officers of the Merchant Service, mentioned in the previous year's Report, were completed in March, with the exception of furnishing, at a total cost of Rs. 50,033-13-5, but owing to the war and the small number of Merchant Service officers requiring accommodation in the Home the new rooms were utilized for the accommodation of chief and 1st class petty officers of the Royal Navy. The Rules and Regulations of the Society were revised during the year and were approved and passed at a Special Meeting of the members of the Society held on the 12th July.

The revisions disclosed the fact that the Society has been incorrectly named for many years past, the correct designation being the *Bombay Sailors' Home Society* and not the *Royal Alfred Sailors' Home Society* as previously described, the latter appellation applying to the Home only.

3½ per cent. Government Promissory Notes for Rs. 6,500, held on account of the Henry Endowment Fund, and 3½ per cent. Government Promissory Notes for Rs. 2,000 and 3 per cent. Government Promissory Notes for Rs. 2,000 held on account of the Life Members' Fund, were transferred during the year to the 4 per cent. Government of India Conversion Loan of 1916-17.

The following changes have taken place amongst members of the Society and Committee of Management during the year:—

Resignations from the Committee:—Capt. W. Fleming Potts, on leaving India; G. F. D. Tennant, Esq., on proceeding to Europe on leave; and C. A. C. Morris, Esq.

The Committee regret to have to place on record the death of Capt. T. H. Watts, Member of the Committee, killed in action in France in July, 1916.

Appointed members of the Society:—J. H. Fyfe, Esq. (B. I. S. N. Co.), L. S. Hudson, Esq. (P. and O. S. N. Co.), M. Leslie, Esq. (Atlas Insurance Co.), Capt. D. F. MacDonald (B. I. S. N. Co.), Capt. C. S. Penny (B. I. S. N. Co.), F. M. St. Paul, Esq. (New Zealand Insurance Co.).

Appointed member of Committee:—J. H. Fyfe, Esq. (B. I. S. N. Co.).

Mr. A. W. Scott, the Superintendent of the Home, continued to conduct his duties in an efficient manner and to the satisfaction of the Committee, and in consideration of the large number of men accommodated in the Home during the year they were pleased to grant him and the staff under him a bonus of one month's salary.

On the motion of Mr. J. E. Needham, seconded by Mr. G. C. Plinston, the report and the accounts were adopted.

Mr. E. F. Allum, Mr. J. H. Fyfe, Mr. B. H. Hewett; Mr. R. H. H. Hopkins, Comdr. E. W. Huddleston, the Hon. Mr. J. S. Wardlaw-Milne, Mr. J. E. Needham, Mr. G. C. Plinston and Mr. Newman Taylor were re-elected members of the Committee. Mr. F. C. Annesley, Mr. F. M. St. Paul and Comdr. Hickman were the new members elected to the Committee.

The Chairman said he would draw their attention to the most noticeable feature of the report, which was that the total number of officers and men, boarded in the Home during the year, was 76,284. This absolutely beat all previous records. The daily average was 208 during the year under report against a daily average of 132 in 1915. The total number in 1915 was a large one but even that was exceeded in 1916. As a consequence of this, Mr. A. W. Scott, the Superintendent of the Home, and the Staff under him, had to do a lot of extra work, in consideration of which the directors were granting Mr. Scott and the staff under him a bonus of one month's salary.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.

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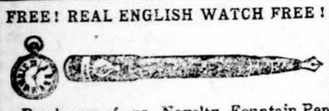

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"THE VICTORY LOAN."

MR BONAR LAW'S APPEAL.

STRENGTH OF OUR FINANCIAL RESOURCES.

Mr. Bonar Law, Chancellor of the Exchequer, at the Colston Hall, Bristol, took part in a National War Loan demonstration in mail week. The great building was crowded, says the "Manchester Guardian." The Lord Mayor of Bristol (Dr. J. Barclay Baron) presided.

The Chairman, said the Chancellor, had come to discuss how an immense sum of money was to be raised in order to enable our fighting forces to remove for ever the bloodstained hand of Prussian militarism from the face of Europe. (Cheers.) They were joining in an effort the effects of which would last for all time, provided we got a conclusive peace, which could only be obtained by bringing the enemy completely to his knees by a military victory. (Cheers.) He believed that the loan would reach one thousand millions, the biggest thing ever known in loans. If that figure were reached Bristol's proportion should be eight millions of new money.

The Lord Mayor himself has given a splendid lead to the citizens by taking up the loan to the extent of £10,000.

Mr. Bonar Law thanked the Lord Mayor for his fine example to the country, and proceeded to say that he had a vivid recollection of the last time when he spoke from that platform. The audience then, as now, was large, but it was a party audience. The subject on which he spoke seemed to him important, but since then the world had been shaken by the greatest catastrophe which had ever been brought upon the earth by the hand of man. Between then and now a great gulf was fixed, a gulf of blood and tears.

When the war was over there would be parties again, though they would not be quite the same parties. (Cheers.) There would be parties again, for the government of a free country had never been carried on without them. But to-day we had quite enough to do in fighting our enemies. There would be time later to fight each other, if fight they must. That was the attitude of all political parties now, and not least of the Labour party in the House of Commons. One of the best signs of the soundness of the life of this country was the way in which the vast majority of the Labour representatives at Manchester had thrown themselves into the successful winning of this war. (Cheers.)

NO DANGER OF OUR RESOURCES FAILING.

The people of the country generally had organised themselves for securing victory. If he were to compare the figures of the production of munitions eighteen months ago with to-day's figures it would seem almost incredible. At the outset our Allies counted on three things—on our financial strength, on our Army, and on our Navy. And they had not been disappointed. (Cheers.) The appeal of the Government was now made to all classes, as all could help. The strength of the country in this war depended upon the usefulness made of our resources. He was proud to know there was not only a national but a local patriotism. He hoped to be able to publish separately the total contributions of all our big cities, and he also hoped to be able to present to the House of Commons a financial "Roll of Honour," to which long after the war was over men might look with pride. (Cheers.)

He would like to say this. The eagerness with which this appeal was being made might perhaps lead some people to think that our financial resources were in danger of failing. There was no such danger. (Cheers.) It was true that we could not go on spending money at the present rate for ever. Nor could we or our Allies, nor our enemies, go on keeping up their armies on the present scale indefinitely. But we hope and believe, said Mr. Law, "that our armies and those of our Allies will be kept up long enough to beat the enemy, and, in the same way, I am sure of this, that our financial resources will last long after those of our enemies have utterly collapsed. (Cheers.) Don't be afraid of the financial burden which is being thrown on this country. It is very great, but we can bear it. (Cheers.) But we need the money, and we shall get it."

After an allusion to President Wilson's speech Mr. Bonar Law read letters from Sir David Beattie and Sir Douglas Haig. The former wrote that if the nation be true to itself and poured its gold into the "Victory Loan" in the same grand spirit as it had poured its manhood in support of the great cause, then victory will indeed be ours, and our sacrifices would not have been in vain. Sir Douglas Haig also urged that one and all should bear a share in the loan, and thus bring about a lasting peace.

A second slip within a fortnight occurred near the cutting at mile 327-6 between Payangazu and Yinmabin on the Shan States Railway interrupting through running of trains for some time.

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CASUALTY LIST.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

The following casualties are announced:—

LONDON, Feb. 17.

KILLED.

Second-Lieut G Bott, Rifle Brigade.
Second-Lieut S J Bryan, Honourable Artillery Company.
Second-Lieut R G Cook, Worcesters.
Captain J B Partington, Devons.
Second-Lieut E Roberts, Flying Corps.

DIED OF WOUNDS.

Lieut D M Birdseye, South Staffords.
Second-Lieut B O Jolly, Yorkshires.

ACCIDENTALLY KILLED.

Major W H O'Brien, Engineers.

DIED.

Lieut H C Collins, Manchesters.
Captain E Johnson-Smyth, Chaplain.

WOUNDED.

Second-Lieut J Black, Yorkshires.
Second-Lieut E M Cattell, Field Artillery.
Second-Lieut T T Collett, Yorkshires.
Second-Lieut G A Davis, Londons.
Captain H G D Dixon, Manchesters.
Second-Lieut T S Edelston, Flying Corps.
Second-Lieut N W Gibbons, South Staffords.
Second-Lieut J C Gibson, Worcesters.
Second-Lieut N Hardie, Engineers.
Second-Lieut P Hendry, Field Artillery.
Second-Lieut A L G Hider, South Staffords.
Second-Lieut G W Higlett, Oxford and Bucks.
Second-Lieut S R Hoyle, Honourable Artillery Company.
Second-Lieut H E L Mellersh, East Lancashires.
Second-Lieut H Moreton, Cheshires.
Second-Lieut A O Pollard, Honourable Artillery Company.
Captain C W C Robinson, Medicals.
Major C G Sawbridge, Garrison Artillery.
Second-Lieut A E P Smith, Flying Corps.
Second-Lieut S F S Walker, Inniskillings.
Lieut H R Weeks, Welsh Regiment.
Second-Lieut G White, Highland Light Infantry.
Second-Lieut H B Williams, Hampshires.
Second-Lieut J S Wilson, South Staffords.
Second-Lieut T H Woodland, Engineers.

LONDON, Feb. 18.

KILLED.

Lieut W A Forkess, Yeomanry.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED MISSING BELIEVED KILLED NOW REPORTED KILLED.

Captain H K Birley, Manchesters.
Second-Lieut J B Karran, South Wales Borderers.

DIED OF WOUNDS.

Second-Lieut T Donohue, Border Regiment.
Second-Lieut W H Irwin, Highland Light Infantry.
Captain W D Madore, Engineers.
Captain L G Rix, Londons.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED WOUNDED NOW REPORTED DIED OF WOUNDS.

Lieut H R Murless, Royal Fusiliers.

DIED.

Captain B A Long, Lancasters.

WOUNDED.

Captain L P Aizlewood, York and Lancasters.
Second-Lieut R F Allmey, Manchesters.
Second-Lieut R J Appleby, Durham Light Infantry.
Second-Lieut M P Atkinson, Worcesters.
Second-Lieut C D Batt, Bedfords.
Captain R C Berkeley, Rifle Brigade.
Captain C H A Borradaile, Artillery.
Second-Lieut P A Bosher, Border Regiment.
Second-Lieut S V Bradford, Northumberlands.
Second-Lieut L L Bridgland, Middlesex.
Lieut H Browning, Artillery.
Second-Lieut W F Critchell, Wiltshires.
Lieut D M French, Suffolks.
Second-Lieut F I Fleming, Flying Corps.
Second-Lieut T O Fraser, Inniskillings.
Major H D Gale, Artillery.
Second-Lieut C R Green, Engineers.
Captain F D Heath, Yeomanry.
Second-Lieut T Hodgson, Border Regiment.
Lieut S H Joelson, Royal Fusiliers.
Major R F Mainguy, Engineers.
Second-Lieut A R Moon, Highland Light Infantry.
Second-Lieut H C Morfey, Artillery.
Lieut-Colonel R S Murray-White, East Lancashires.
Second-Lieut W P Pakenham-Walsh, Artillery.
Lieut J E S Percy, Durhams.
Second-Lieut T B Pollard, Durhams.
Lieut J M J Rock, Bedfords.
Second-Lieut R U Thomas, Welsh Regiment.
Second-Lieut B P Webster, Royal Fusiliers.

MISSING.

Second-Lieut W H Webster, Londons.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED MISSING NOW REPORTED DIED OF WOUNDS AS PRISONER.

Second-Lieut G E Rawlinson, Cambridges.

OFFICIAL CORRECTION.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED MISSING NOW REPORTED KILLED.

Second-Lieut P A Birk, Irish Regiment, should read Second-Lieut P A Bick, Irish Regiment.

LONDON, Feb. 19.

KILLED.

Second-Lieut H W Bradley, Welsh Fusiliers.
Lieut L T Despicht, Bedfords.
Second-Lieut H W Hannah, Royal Scots.
Second-Lieut L W C Ireland, Manchesters.
Second-Lieut G McKirdy, Bedfords.
Second-Lieut V B Shott, Bedfords.

WOUNDED.

Captain B F Ayrton, Londons.
Second-Lieut A S Barnes, Field Artillery.
Second-Lieut A C Bartholomew, Cheshires.
Captain T G Bird, Engineers.
Second-Lieut J E Common, Northumberlands.
Second-Lieut R H Creery, Garrison Artillery.
Second-Lieut E F Crowdy, Field Artillery.
Second-Lieut R C D Harris, Monmouths.
Lieut T E Heron, Northumberlands.
Second-Lieut A W Julian, Dublins.
Captain E C R Kilkelly, Field Artillery.
Captain H C Lasbrey, Field Artillery.
Major A Mason, Field Artillery.
Second-Lieut J C Masterson, Worcesters.
Captain W W Michael, Yorkshires.
Second-Lieut E F Piercy, Bedfords.
Lieut-Colonel C P Porch, Northumberlands.
Second-Lieut C H W Pugh, Shropshires.
Second-Lieut R Purves, Highland Light Infantry.
Second-Lieut B S L S Raine, Worcesters.
Second-Lieut J S H Robinson, Welsh Regiment.
Second-Lieut G S Ross, Scottish Borderers.
Second-Lieut H Smart, Bedfords.
Second-Lieut J F Steele, Londons.
Second-Lieut W B Stimson, Bedfords.
Second-Lieut S P Stotter, Londons.
Second-Lieut J C Stuart, Cameronians.
Captain G C N Sturt, Worcesters.
Second-Lieut R J Thomas, Bedfords.
Second-Lieut W A Thomas, Bedfords.
Second-Lieut J E Walsh, Munsters.
Second-Lieut J Watson, Northumberlands.
Second-Lieut P A Watson, Yeomanry.
Second-Lieut J L Wolley, Horse Artillery.
Second-Lieut J H Wright, Royal Fusiliers.
Second-Lieut P C Young, Northumberlands.

MISSING.

Captain C H Daggett, Northumberlands.
Second-Lieut J K Howard, Sherwoods.
Lieut D A G B Ryley, North Staffords.
Captain J Thorburn, Garrison Artillery.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)

DELHI, Feb. 27.

The following names of British officers appear in the casualty list No. 319, Indian Expeditionary Forces:—

KILLED.

Machine Gun Corps: 2nd-Lieut H E Wyatt; King's Royal Rifle Corps: 2nd-Lieut J S Tatham; Worcestershires: 2nd-Lieuts W B Bushby and J M Jones; North Lancashires: 2nd-Lieut N Hampson; South Wales Borderers: 2nd-Lieut G L Davies; Black Watch: 2nd-Lieut H W Bruce; I A: Major D W H Humphreys, 2nd-Lieut A H Borrett.

DIED OF WOUNDS.

Welsh Fusiliers: 2nd-Lieut T J Owen.

WOUNDED.

R F A: Lieut E R Stranger, 2nd-Lieut Hon F I Thesiger; Cyclists: 2nd-Lieut W A H Heath; South Wales Borderers: Captain W N V Bickford Smith, Lieuts J H C Griffiths, C G Usher, 2nd-Lieuts H M Herbert, W B Hind, W R Barker; Suffolk Regiment: 2nd-Lieut G O Preston; Liverpools: Lieut F S Burt; R A M C: Captain C O'Brien; I A: Captains A M Kennedy, R B Harward, 2nd-Lieut R H Baines; I A R O: 2nd-Lieuts C LeG Poingdestre, J A Stein, F B Fisher, A H E Findop.

PRISONER OF WAR (WOUNDED).

I A R O: 2nd-Lieut J H Stable.

News has been received in India that Lieut C M Buck, R F Corps, reported missing in France on 24th January, was killed in action.

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COMBINATION OF JUDICIAL AND EXECUTIVE.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE CHRONICLE."

Sir,—In spite of fervent public desires and urgent necessity Government have not yet been able to find it convenient to separate the judicial from the executive branch of the administration. The most recent disappointment in the matter is the report of the Public Service Commission. It may be suggested, however, in the interests of the public that it is absolutely necessary constantly to move Government in the matter as the present united judicial and executive administration is extremely injurious to public interests.

Some practical experiences on the subject will prove interesting to the public. In one district years ago there happened to be a rather strong Superintendent of Police with a District Magistrate at the head of the administration not particularly anxious for judicial independance. The District Superintendent of Police was too zealous in guarding the interests of his department the result being that he expected every case sent by the Police to result in conviction in the Magistrates Courts. If there happened to be a discharge or an acquittal the District Superintendent of Police sent for the papers of the case and called for remarks as regards the magistrate's judgment from the Police Officers concerned in the investigation. The result was that a case decided by a magistrate was subjected to a review and remarks by the lowest Head Constable to the highest police officer in the district. The papers then used to be returned to the District Magistrate with an abundance of strong comment charging the magistrate with as much abuse of powers as police ingenuity could invent. The district magistrate usually became biassed and the proceedings often resulted in the magistrate being severely censured. In more than one instance the magistrate's future prospects were seriously injured. The state of affairs was that the magistrates were one and all swayed during the trial of cases more by what the police would say about their decisions than by any sense of justice they were expected to be guided by. The police ghost almost constantly haunted the magistracy and none of them prospered unless the police showered their blessings on him as the *best convicting magistrate*.

This is a story of the past, but, circumstances do not seem to have materially changed. Even to this day a majority of magistrates in deciding cases are swayed more by a desire to evade the displeasure of the district magistrate in his capacity as Collector than by a sense of dispensing independant public justice.

A very recent instance might interest you. A First Class Magistrate was asked to try a case in which a village officer was charged with having misappropriated a paltry sum of money in the performance of his duties. The departmental enquiry was held by a Mamlatdar and he had laid the charge against the village officer. In the course of the trial it transpired that over some religious and communal matter the village officer had once revolted against the Mamlatdar and occasion had arisen for racial enmity to exist between them. The magistrate did not believe such an accuser and the prosecution in general and acquitted the village officer. Now there was a Deputy Collector who had in conjunction with the Mamlatdar interested himself in seeing that the man was convicted and punished. He became incensed at the acquittal and wrote secretly in strong terms to the district magistrate who was swayed by the Deputy Collector's writings and using his judicial powers in an executive capacity abused the magistrate with extreme vehemence. The departmental results which followed this circumstance need not be detailed. It may be mentioned, however, that if the district magistrate thought that the order of acquittal passed by the First Class Magistrate was not justifiable it was open for him to move Government to prefer an appeal to the High Court a course judicially correct and fair to all concerned.

The nervous fear underlying the non-submission of the proceedings to the High Court is mysterious, the most surprising circumstance in the affair being that the village officer though judicially acquitted was by some means or other made to suffer departmentally. An indirect warning reached magistrates, the terms of which I leave the public to judge for themselves. Where is in such circumstances the discretion and judicial independence expected to be exercised by magistrate? Such a state of affairs must result in injury to public interests in as much as there cannot, but prevail in the hearts of magistrates a desire to do what would please a Collector and District Magistrate whose powerful assistants carry to his ear habitually all kinds of gossip even in matters purely judicial. That cursed mode of demi-official correspondence must now see an end at least in judicial matters as its effects are most pernicious to public justice.

Government mean everything well. It expects its District Magistrates to forget that they are Collectors when acting judicially as District Magistraes. But all minds are not sufficiently strong and many cannot withstand the temptation to exercise executive control in a judicial garb. It will result in great satisfaction to the public if the two branches are immediately separated.—Yours, etc.,

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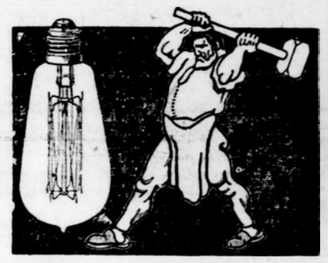

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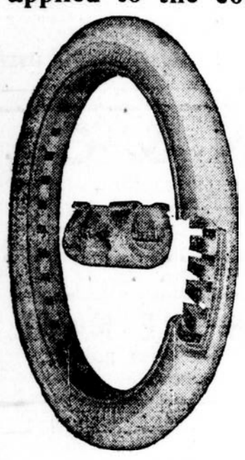

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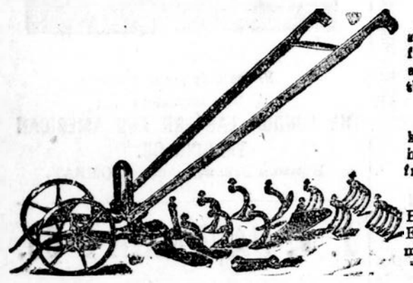

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